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The Pittsburgh Commercial.

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HARRISBURG.

PENNSYLVANIA LEGISLATURE

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.
HARRISBURG, PA., March 23, 1876.

SENATE.

Mr. Newmyer's classification bill was amended on motion of Dr. Woods, to give minority representation.

The Senate passed the following:

Supplement to an act fixing the pay of road commissioners, road and bridge viewers and reviewers and commissioners to run township lines.

Authorizing the Governor to appoint a commission to devise a plan or plans for the government of cities.

Supplement to the act regulating elections.

Authorizing the appointment of women prison inspectors.

To amend the act approved April, 1875, so that the money raised by tax on personal, oil and water may be used in purchasing hose for fire companies.

Supplement to an act providing the manner in which county bridges shall be built by the county of Luzerne, changing the time of making application before the grand jury, and preventing interested parties from acting with the jury.

The bill ceding jurisdiction to the United States over certain land in Bucks county, to be used as a cemetery, was defeated.

The bills debated on second reading were principally usury laws.

Resolution [illegible] to repeal the act to regulate the execution and transfer of notes given for patent rights. Negatived.

Act to prescribe the manner by which Courts of Quarter Sessions may divide township into election districts. Amended and passed finally and finally passed.

Joint resolution directing the printing of reports and documents for the use of the Senate and House of Representatives and the several departments of the State government. Passed.

Act to exempt persons who religiously observe the seventh day of the week as the Sabbath from the penalties of the act of April 22, 1794. Messrs. Jones, Anderson, of Allegheny, and Stanton advocated the passage of the foregoing bill in ringing speeches, while Messrs. Mann, Newmyer, Herr, Payne and Chesnut opposed the same. Passed.

The Governor nominated to the Senate the following appointments:

Notaries Public—A. B. Rutledge and H. D. Murray, of Pittsburgh; T. C. Campbell, of Butler, Butler county.

Adjourned.

HOUSE.

The famous Boom bill, reducing the tolls of the Susquehanna Boom Company, over which an annual contest has been made in the Legislature for many years, was passed second reading by a vote of 135 yeas to 9 nays. It has already passed the Senate, and from all appearances Peter Hardie will have to reduce his tolls to one dollar per thousand for boomage. The Allegheny county members voted for the measure.

On the bill fixing the rate of interest and establishing a penalty for usury, Mr. Long offered an amendment to authorize contracts to be made at 7 per cent., the rate which was debated until the close of the morning session.

Bill No. 6, reclassifying cities, was amended as its title and passed.

The following bill passed: An act relative to the official acts of foreign notaries.

The following was passed finally: An act to fix the salaries of the several State officers of this Commonwealth, the number of clerks to be employed in the several departments and their compensation, and providing for the incidental expenses of said department.

There was a discussion on several bills on second reading, the usury law being the principal one under discussion.

The House adjourned.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.
HARRISBURG, PA., March 24, 1876.

SENATE.

No. 270, Newmyer's City Classification bill, was passed, with an amendment requiring the minority representatives in the Board of Assessors to be elected by Councils.

Bill No. 162, prescribing the manner by which the Courts of Quarter Sessions may divide townships into election districts, was passed.

Adjourned until Monday evening.

A bill has been introduced into the Senate, conferring upon private detective agencies and associations the right to recovery of stolen goods, the power and authority of constables in certain cases, which carries the right to search houses and individuals. This is altogether too great and dangerous a power to entrust to irresponsible parties, and would work infinite mischief by bringing these volunteer associations into conflict with the regular police force and commissioned detectives, who are responsible for what they do to their superiors. The bill in its present shape cannot and should not pass.

HOUSE.

Mr. Zern presented a petition for the enlargement of the jurisdiction of Aldermen.

Mr. Irwin presented a petition asking for the passage of a law compelling railroads to run morning and evening trains to and from cities.

The following bills were introduced:

Messrs. Thornton and Large—Bills repealing the local prohibition liquor laws of Allegheny county.

Mr. Reighard introduced a bill authorizing the Board of Public Charities to appoint the managers of the Pennsylvania Reform School.

Mr. Long (Allegheny), introduced a bill entitled an act to prevent the unlicensed sale of goods, wares, stocks and real estate at auction in cities of the second and third class by other than authorized persons, fixing the State license for auctioneers at five hundred dollars. Petitioned for by all the merchants in the business in Pittsburgh and Allegheny city. The Auctioneer's bill was defeated the other day because it was a general bill applicable to all cities in the State, and the smaller cities complained that they could not pay the license, that their sales would not justify it. Mr. Long prepared this bill to suit all parties, and it will no doubt give general satisfaction.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.
HARRISBURG, PA., March 27, 1876.

SENATE.

The Senate met at eight o'clock P. M.

Mr. Busy endeavored to have taken up the bill giving pensions to soldiers in the Mexican war, but was ruled out of order because the general appropriation bill had not been reported from the House.

The bill submitted the following, which was agreed to:

Resolved, That the Senate should adjourn from one o'clock to-morrow until Thursday morning at ten o'clock.

The Senate finally passed the third reading the bill making an appropriation of fifteen thousand dollars for an educational display at the Centennial Exposition, and to erect a suitable school house or other building for the purpose.

The supplementary act appropriating $40,000 for the erection of buildings for State purposes at the Centennial Exhibition, and to defray the expenses thereof, was defeated, yeas 19, nays 11, the constitutional majority having failed to vote in the affirmative.

Seeing their dilemma, the friends of the bill, namely: Messrs. Anderson, Crawford, Cooper and Butterfield, changed their votes, while various reasons considerative of some future time, and thus secure the passage another chance of passage. It is believed that on the return of many members who are absent, the bill will finally pass.

Doctor Wood opposed the bill in a lengthy speech, while Mr. Davis warmly advocated its passage.

The Governor sent the following appointments of notaries public to the Senate for confirmation: John A. Ley, Allegheny City; Isaac Brown, Corry, Erie county.

Adjourned.

HOUSE.

The House met at 7:35. Mr. Hahn submitted the following, which was agreed to:

Resolved, That when this House adjourns on Tuesday at 1 P. M., it adjourns to meet again on Thursday morning at ten.

Mr. Gunster submitted the following, which was agreed to:

Resolved, That the Chairman of the Committee on Ways and Means be and is hereby requested to report to this House the probable amount of revenue, together with the sources of the same, for the present year, and that the Chairman of the Committee on Appropriations be and is hereby requested to report to this House the probable amount of expenditures, including a detailed statement of the appropriations asked for by different institutions, and that said reports be made at as early a day as possible.

It was moved to reconsider the above note by which the House adjourns from one P. M. to-morrow until Thursday morning next, which was not agreed to, yeas 39, nays 56.

Geter Shidle was substituted in place of Graff, who has resigned, on the committee to investigate the Pittsburgh municipal water bond and Penn avenue affairs.

The general insurance bill occupied the House, by special order, this evening. Several amendments were adopted, making the bill reciprocal with the legislation of other States, and perfects it.

Mr. Morgan, (Lawrence), offered an amendment which was adopted, providing that this act shall not apply to beneficial societies, whether issuing policies containing a guaranteed sum of insurance or not.

Mr. Long also offered an amendment, which was adopted, permitting payment of stock notes in five annual payments, instead of two. The bill passed second reading.

Adjourned.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.
HARRISBURG, PA., March 28, 1876.

SENATE.

Mr. Winslow introduced a joint resolution requesting the Attorney General to proceed by quo warranto to forfeit the franchises of the Connelisville Railroad for overcharges of freight and passenger rates and other violation of State laws.

The mechanic's lien bill was defeated.

Senate bill 222 passed.

Senate bill 176, to revive, amend and consolidate existing laws for the assessment and collection of State taxes, passed.

On motion of Mr. Anderson, of Crawford, the vote by which the Centennial bill appropriating $40,000 was defeated, was reconsidered and, after discussion, the bill passed the Senate finally with an amendment providing that a joint committee of the Senate and House shall act in conjunction with the State Board of Centennial Managers.

Mr. McNeill introduced a bill repealing an act approved April 15, 1873, annexing the township of McClure, in the county of Allegheny, to the city of Allegheny.

President Davis will appoint on Thursday next the following Senate Committee to superintend the erection of a State building to act in connection with the State Board of Centennial Managers: Messrs. Jones, Strang, McMullin, Nagle and Yerkes.

The Senate adjourned until Thursday morning at ten o'clock.

HOUSE.

Bill No. 65, repealing an act relative to committing magistrates of Lebanon, Dauphin, Franklin and Adams counties, was negatived, but the vote was afterwards reconsidered on motion of Mr. Hall, and the bill was again placed on the calendar.

The report of the Conference Committee on Senate bill No. 27, was adopted. This bill fixes the salary of the Allegheny District Attorney at $5,000 and the Assistant at $1,500; Sheriff $6,500, Coroner $2,000, Prothonotary $6,000, Clerk of Courts $4,500 Register of Wills $3,500, Recorder of Deeds and County Treasurer each $5,000, County Controller $4,000, County Surveyor $2,000, County Commissioners $2,000.

The General Appropriation bill was called up, one section read and laid over.

House bill 65, relative to the prevention of horses, cattle, sheep or swine from running at large) and the bill in relation to issuing writs of execution on judgments confessed and entered in said, were defeated.

The House bill amending an act entitled "An Act regulating boroughs," approved April 3, 1851, extending the provisions of the act so as to empower boroughs to levy and collect annually for borough purposes a tax not exceeding one cent on the dollar on the valuation assessed for county purposes was passed.

A supplement to the act repealing "an act relating to the collection of district and road assessments in the several counties," was discussed.

Mr. Wimmer, at his own request, was relieved from serving longer on the committee to investigate the Pittsburgh municipal water bond and Penn avenue affairs.

Mr. Logan, of Crawford county, was appointed in his place.

The Senate amendment to the Centennial bill was agreed to.

Adjourned till Thursday.

FIGHT WITH SIOUX INDIANS.

Crazy Horse's Village on Powder River Captured and Burned by a Detachment of General Crook's Expedition.

Special Dispatch to the New York Times.
FORT RENO, March 22.—A detachment of General Crook's expedition against the hostile Sioux, consisting of Mills', Noyes' and Moore's squadrons, numbering about three hundred and thirty men and officers, under command of General Reynolds, captured and burned Crazy Horse's village on the morning of the 17th. It was on Powder river, twenty miles below the mouth of Clear Fork, and had about one hundred lodges. The village was charged by Captain Egan's company with pistols, Captain Noyes' company dismounting and running off the herd of ponies, numbering five or six hundred. The other troops quickly followed Captain Egan's attack, which had taken the Indians by surprise in their village. Mills' and Moore's squadrons went in, dismounted and the Indians retreated to the bluffs and ravines back of their encampment, and subsequently assailed the troops while the work of destroying the village went on. It was burned, with large quantities of ammunition, robes, meat, all other things valuable to Indians. Our loss was four enlisted men killed and seven wounded. No casualties occurred among the officers. The loss among the Indians is not known. At 2 P. M., when the work of destruction was complete, the command began its march to the mouth of Clear Fork, where they expect to meet General Crook, with supplies. They arrived there at dark, and General Crook arrived the next day. A second village was captured in this affair marched seventy-five miles from 8 A. M. on the 16th to dark on the 17th, with but three hours' rest in the intervening. The 17th men and horses were very much exhausted from the tax on their endurance.

CHICAGO, March 25.—The following telegram has been received at General Sheridan's headquarters this morning:

FORT RENO, March 22.—We cut loose from the wagon train on the 17th inst., and scouted the Tongue and Rosebud and am well satisfied that there were no Indians upon them; then struck across the country toward Powder river. Gen. Reynolds with a detachment was pushed forward on a trail leading to the village of Crazy Horse, near the mouth of Little Powder river. This he attacked and destroyed on the 17th in the morning, capturing a perfect magazine of ammunition, war material, and general supplies. Crazy Horse had with him the northern Cheyennes and some of the Minneconjous, probably in all, one-half of the Indians of the reservation. Every evidence was found to prove these Indians in copartnership with those at the Red Cloud and Spotted Tail agencies, and that the proceeds of their raids upon the settlements had been taken to those agencies and supplies brought out in return. In this connection I would again urgently recommend the immediate transfer of the Indians of those agencies to the Missouri river. I am satisfied, if this is done, the Sioux will find Spotted Tail agencies, and that the proceeds of their raids upon the settlements had been taken to those agencies and supplies brought out in return. In this connection I would again urgently recommend the immediate transfer of the Indians of those agencies to the Missouri river. I am satisfied, if this is done, the Sioux will find little encouragement on that part of General Crook's expedition against the hostile Sioux, consisting of Mills', Noyes' and Moore's squadrons, numbering about three hundred and thirty men and officers, under command of General Reynolds, captured and burned Crazy Horse's village on the morning of the 17th. It was on Powder river, twenty miles below the mouth of Clear Fork, and had about one hundred lodges. The village was charged by Captain Egan's company with pistols, Captain Noyes' company dismounting and running off the herd of ponies, numbering five or six hundred. The other troops quickly followed Captain Egan's attack, which had taken the Indians by surprise in their village. Mills' and Moore's squadrons went in, dismounted and the Indians retreated to the bluffs and ravines back of their encampment, and subsequently assailed the troops while the work of destroying the village went on. It was burned, with large quantities of ammunition, robes, meat, all other things valuable to Indians. Our loss was four enlisted men killed and seven wounded. No casualties occurred among the officers. The loss among the Indians is not known. At 2 P. M., when the work of destruction was complete, the command began its march to the mouth of Clear Fork, where they expect to meet General Crook, with supplies. They arrived there at dark, and General Crook arrived the next day. A second village was captured in this affair marched seventy-five miles from 8 A. M. on the 16th to dark on the 17th, with but three hours' rest in the intervening. The 17th men and horses were very much exhausted from the tax on their endurance.

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MEXICO.

A Forced Loan from Merchants of Matamoras—Vera Cruz Declared in a State of Siege.

GALVESTON, March 24.—A Brownsville special to the *News* says: Yesterday afternoon General Laborra gave the merchants and business men of Matamoras a peremptory notice to meet him at his office at 4:30 P. M. He informed them, when they met, that the object of the meeting was to raise $300,000 to pay his troops and place the city in a state of defence. He offered a premium of thirty per cent., in Custom House bonds, saying it was a friendly offer, and if not accepted he would raise the money by force and not scruple to use severe means; that, if necessary to have her merchants imprisoned to effect his object, he would do so; he said he had the interests of his Government in his hands and would subserve them at all hazards. The merchants present were then called on to subscribe to the loan. When Senor Antonio Langoria was called, he said he was unable to subscribe. He was immediately confined in the artillery quarters, and is there yet. He can be released by subscribing $10,000. Ten thousand dollars have been demanded from the House of Don Francisco Armedas. The manager of firm is an American citizen, and is now in New Orleans now. Some members of the firm are on this side. Last night $30,000 were subscribed, and to-day $13,000. This sum falls $57,000 short of what is needed now. General Laborra says he will call for the balance in fifteen days or so. In addition to the forced loan the Mexican Government has levied a tax of one per cent. on capital or property. The American merchants have subscribed to the loan, but, in view of the inferior treasury notes on the part of General Laborra, they have applied to United States Consul Wilson for protection. General Beise is near Matamoras with more than 1,000 men. It is supposed that he will attack soon. The above facts will aid materially to give him an easy victory.

VERA CRUZ, March 24.—The Revolutionists captured Jalapa on the 12th. The State of Vera Cruz was, on the 13th, declared in a state of seige.

WASHINGTON.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.
WASHINGTON, D. C., March 23, 1876.

The Question of Silver Resumption.

Information has been received at the Treasury Department that the silver product of the Consolidated Virginia mines for March will be $3,500,000, and of the other mines of the Comstock lode, about $600,000. The yield next month is estimated at $5,000,000. The Secretary of the Treasury received information from London to-day that the bullion value of a dollar, in subsidiary silver coin, is four cents less than the legal tender paper dollar. Under the Revised Statutes, silver can be received for import duties. This will lead importers to use, in place of gold, as it will be cheaper. It is feared that this demand will run the price up to such a figure that it will disappear from circulation and leave the country drained of the smaller denominations, so necessary in the current financial transactions.

The Specter of Fraud

has so taken possession of the benighted intellects of the Democratic investigating committees, that they see nothing but jobs in everything. They have already impeded public business in the departments. The information called for is generally of a frivolous character, and has no bearing whatever upon the subject. The fact that the Secretary of War is sufficient to respond to their requests and attend to the business of his department.

Army Headquarters.

It is intimated in army circles that there is a disposition to have army headquarters again established at Washington. The overbearing conduct of Belknap was the cause of the removal to St. Louis, General Sherman being unwilling to submit to the humiliations which that enterprising Secretary of War inflicted upon him.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.
WASHINGTON, D. C., March 24, 1876.

Business of the House Behind.

The slow progress of business in the House is already causing uneasiness amongst the Democrats. Mr. Holman to-day said that he would propose night sessions, perhaps next week. Up to date not a single measure of importance has been carried through. There are also thirty important investigations going on, all of which will require more or less of the attention of the House. In the event of the failure of the articles of impeachment against Belknap, pending the trial in the Senate, the House would necessarily suspend business. Like everything else the Democrats have undertaken, it looks now as if their attempts at legislation would be a failure, and that the country would have to go without measures of great importance to its business and other interests, as the result of sheer imbecility.

Government Centennial Display.

The House Committee on Appropriations having refused to grant the fund necessary to complete the preparations for the display at the Centennial Exhibition, measures have been taken to have an executive communication sent to Congress showing the necessity of granting the sum asked. With out this the Government display threat ens to turn out a failure.

Judge McCandless and His Successor.

The Senate to-day passed the bill providing for the retirement of Judge McCandless, with an amendment that he must take advantage of its provisions within six months. This was suggested by the appointment of a Judge in Vermont who, notwithstanding the passage of a similar act several years ago, still officiates. The bill as amended will go back to the House, but it will pass. The nomination of Judge Marriett, of Pittsburgh, is again mentioned as the probable successor to Judge Mc Candless. It is intimated that Judge McCandless has received a letter from Tilden in support. Representative Ketcham, jus recovering from a severe illness, and Judge Scofield, are also being pressed by influential friends.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.
WASHINGTON, D. C., March 25, 1876.

An Unauthorized Bureau.

A resolution will be introduced in the House of Representatives, calling upon the Secretary of State to show under what provision of law accounts are adjusted in his department; that the law designates the Auditors and Comptrollers of the Treasury as the proper accounting officers of the Government. It is known that there has been created in that department of late years a Bureau of Accounts, which, it appears, is charged with the custody and disbursement of the appropriations under the control of the department, with the indemnity funds and bonds, the care of the building and property of the department, and disbursing clerk, who is also the chairman of the committee at Washington; he presumed they were asked to subscribe because it would post tradeships under the Administration; he did not consider that they were obliged to pay, but were notified that contributions would be accepted. He thought that contributions from military posts was designat ed in proportion to the number of troops there.

J. J. Fisher was recalled and testified that the firm of Evans & Co., post traders, contributed money for political purposes in pursuance of a request contained in a printed circular. He was not positive, independent of the officers legally constituted for that purpose; at least, no authority can be found in the statutes, and it is desired to know on what authority such money is power is exercised. The Committee on Expenditures in the State Department will also inquire into the items of disbursements, as it is believed that many of these novel expenditures are covered up and kept from the public eye by this action on the part of the Department of State. It is also believed that the Bureau accounts can be dispensed with.

Bopkins' Bill to Regulate Commerce.

The House Committee on Commerce have agreed, after disposing of the River and Harbor bill, and one or two measures of lesser importance now pending, to take up for consideration Mr. Hopkins' bill to regulate commerce and to prohibit unjust discriminations by common carriers. This bill prohibits all railroad companies and all other corporations or persons engaged in the business of carrying freight from one State or Territory to any place in another State or Territory, or from any place in a State or Territory to the seaboard for exportation, or to any place within any State or Territory, of receiving a greater or less sum for like land place of delivery, from making any discriminations in charges for handling, carrying and delivering such freights, and requires that all such charges shall be equitable and uniform.

The act requires the publication of a schedule of charges upon the various classes of freight to be carried, prior to the passage of the act, and any deviation from the schedule rates to be punishable by a fine of $1,000 for each offense, one half to be paid to the United States and the other half to the party suing; and any combination to defeat the purposes of the act is declared a misdemeanor and liable.

A similar measure has been before, which will be laid before the committee, intended to set forth the reasons why the bill should pass. It is understood that legislature of similar import is now pending in the Legislature of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, to cover the grievances complained of within its borders, and the proposed measure here is designed to secure redress against inter-State roads. The statement alluded to emanates primarily from the oil men, but appears to be sustained by a large share of the influential manufacturers and business men of Pittsburgh. It is stated that the same complaints are made by the Chicago jobbers. We give the statement as it appears. It says: Asa result of the policy pursued in unjust and continued discriminations against our city in favor of Cleveland, which has become the largest in export, has been driven almost entirely away from Pittsburgh, and, in fact, almost out of the State. It is claimed that from the natural location of Pittsburgh and the oil region, it should control the entire trade, whereas the fact is that Cleveland has for some years been refining a very large share of the oil product for export; that while Cleveland, taking the producing region as a starting point, is four hundred miles further away from the sea than Pittsburgh, the refiners of the former city are able to carry this product this additional four hundred miles cheaper than it can be transported from Pittsburgh. The effect is stated to be that the refineries of Cleveland run all the year, whilst those in Pittsburgh are compelled to shut down a number of their owners in bankruptcy. It is declared that this is the effect of a combination between the Pennsylvania and Northern railroads, which has been in force, and it is alleged that they have fixed what they claim to be a uniform rate of freight, but which is so high that the Northern corsequence is practically prohibitory, and additional four hundred miles cheaper than it can be transported from Pittsburgh. The effect is stated to be that the refineries of Cleveland run all the year, whilst those in Pittsburgh are compelled to shut down a number of their owners in bankruptcy. It is declared that this is the effect of a combination between the Pennsylvania and Northern railroads, which has been in force, and it is alleged that they have fixed what they claim to be a uniform rate of freight, but which is so high that the Northern corsequence is practically prohibitory, and will soon, without a loss. It is declared that as a result, a valuable product of the Commonwealth is diverted to enrich cities and corporations of another State. The combination, as it exists to-day, it is declared, comprises the Pennsylvania, Baltimore and Ohio and the Northern line of roads, and the Standard Oil Company, of Cleveland, who control the refineries in New York and Parkersburg, West Virginia. It is shown that during the first twenty-six days of January, 1876, Cleveland took 120,000 barrels of crude oil from the wells. There was shipped in bulk-boats, from the conduit pipe, past Pittsburgh to Parkersburg, to be refined and shipped over the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad to Baltimore, 80,000 barrels, whilst during the same time Pittsburgh received but 22 000 barrels. Facts are also given to show that when the refiners of Pittsburgh wish to ship a car of oil to Scranton, they are obliged to send it by way of the Allegheny Valley Railroad to Buffalo, thence by the Philadelphia and Erie road, which can be done at a lower rate than to ship direct. This controversy promises to be one of considerable determination, as a powerful influence has combined to effect the passage of the bill.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.
WASHINGTON, D. C., March 26, 1876.

Another Water-Haul for the Investigators.

The investigation into the management of the Government printing office shows no irregularities, as charged. The House will attempt to secure joint control over the Government printer. This is not likely to succeed, as the Senate rejected such a proposition last session, and would also repeal a law of the first session of the forty-third Congress, which, upon the first vacancy, makes the Congressional printer an executive officer.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.
WASHINGTON, D. C., March 27, 1876.

Pierrepont's Confidential Circular.

In his examination, the Attorney General, before the Judiciary Committee today, justified his circular letter as a confidential communication to the District Attorney, believing that there was a danger that many guilty persons would escape with a [illegible] Evidence before the committee shows conclusively that Babcock purloined this letter, to be used in his own defense, and that he justifies his action by saying that a drowning man will seize every chance to save himself. The developments in this case, it is believed, will certainly lead to a military trial of Babcock.

Army Headquarters to be Returned.

General Sherman said to-day that the new Secretary of War having expressed a wish that the headquarters of the army should be returned to Washington, he had assented to the change, if the embarrassments which had surrounded him before were remedied. It was decided that the General of the Army should exercise the prerogatives of his office without interference. Under Belknap, that enterprising functionary sent orders to the army, leaving the general to find them out as best he could. It is proposed to place the Adjutant General's office under the direction of the General.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.
WASHINGTON, D. C., March 28, 1876.

Gen. Sherman on the Presidency.

Gen. Sherman, in speaking of the Presidency, said that he had been behind the scenes in the Harrison, Taylor, Lincoln, Johnson and Grant administrations, and that he had learned enough to be entirely satisfied with his present position. He does not think the chief magistrate's seat, exalted and revered as it is, a place to be envied. As for himself, he wished to die his duty as a soldier, bring up his family properly, and to be a useful citizen. Political honors have no temptations, he says, for him.

In reply to a question by Mr. Clymer, witness said she had seen Clymer but once, and that was three weeks ago; it was at the breakfast table at the Arlington Hotels. Her husband presented her to Mr. Clymer, but their short conversation had no reference to the matter before the committee.

C. P. Marsh was recalled, and interrogated by Mr. Clymer. He testified that he left Washington for New York on the day the impeachment report was presented, the 22d March, and did not then design going to Canada.

Mr. Clymer—On the evening of Wednesday you came to my lodging and saw me a moment. Tell what transpired.

Answer—From something said at the dinner table, I inferred that Belknap was not only liable to impeachment, but to criminal prosecution. I said to you "If the Secretary is in danger I am in danger," when you said, "Oh, you are not in danger."

Mr. Clymer—I did not attempt to alarm you?

Answer—On the contrary you pacified me; I was alarmed when I came to you; I went back to New York early when you said I was in no danger.

Q.—When you reached New York what influence led you to conclude to go to Canada?

A.—Something in the newspapers on Friday morning, concerning my testimony, all of which was published; I read remarks made in the House that the Secretary of War was not only liable to impeachment, but to criminal prosecution. I, therefore, thought that if the Secretary was in danger I was in danger as well. I consulted a lawyer, who made an exhaustive examination of the case; the lawyer didn't think I could be [illegible] that if I should be I could not be convicted; counsel said there seemed, however, some danger. This very much alarmed me and determined me not to remain in New York; I left early in the afternoon of Friday, for Montreal; this was the first time I had heard it said I had committed an offense for which I might be imprisoned.

Mr. Bass—And Mr. Clymer told you on Wednesday night that there was no danger to you?

Mr. Clymer—I said Marsh could not be sent to prison for anything he had said before the committee.

Mr. Robinson—That was true.

Witness said he left New York for Montreal at four o'clock on the afternoon of Friday, and reached there next morning after a journey of

Mr. Blackburn—Had you then heard that the Government authorities had concluded to prosecute you as well as Secretary Belknap?

A.—I am not positive; I might have seen such a statement.

Q—It is said you hesitated when at Peckskill on the Hudson whether you would proceed to Montreal?

A.—I did hesitate; thought that if I had offended the laws of my country I would go back. If the train had passed Peckskill for New York I should have taken passage in it, but as the train was going to Montreal, I proceeded thither.

Mrs. Marsh being interrogated as to why she went to Montreal, said that seeing in the morning paper that her husband had been called on by the military and implicated in the Belknap affair, she followed the next morning, fearful he had been injured.

Mr. and Mrs. Marsh then left the room.

Mr. Alvin P. Leighton, James Leighton and Andrew Leighton, brothers, were examined and the statement was elicited that General Hemrick received large sums for obtaining one of the appointments; that $300 per month was paid to those whom I desire to propose.

J. S. Hammer testified that he obtained the appointment of Post Trader at Fort Gibson, at the request of ex Senator McDonald, of Arkansas, who asked for it as a personal favor. Witness paid no money, whatever, to Belknap. Hammer's bond has been assessed and paid $100 to the Republican Executive Committee at Washington; he had no partner. A recess was taken.

ARRIVAL OF GENERAL SHERMAN.

General Sharman arrived this morning and called on the President previous to the Cabinet meeting. The General was also at the War Department and had a private consultation with Secretary Taft. Secretary Belknap's successor will not resume his station here, and to the fullest extent have charge of the ordinary business belonging to his office. The consultation to-day was brief.

TESTIMONY OF SCHENCK AND PARKE.

Mr. Faulkner, chairman *pro tem.* of the Committee on Foreign Affairs, stated this morning that he had received a letter from General Schenck, saying that he would not be able to appear before the committee in all after April 5th, owing to [illegible] engagements. It was decided to hear Schenck on Tuesday morning next, and Parke immediately after.

REORGANIZATION OF THE ARMY.

The Committee on Military Affairs have agreed upon Representative Banning's bill, with some amendments, for the reorganization of the army. It does not reduce the present effective force of the army, but it reduces the infantry regiments from twenty-five to twenty, and cavalry from ten to eight. It consolidates the Quartermaster and Commissary Departments, fixes the pay of first sergeants at forty dollars per month, makes the Secretary ineligible as General of the Army at Washington in time of peace, and provides that he may act as Secretary of War in the absence of the Secretary. Sergeants are to receive the stains of the mine, and showed him statements of its working operations, sales of ore and bullion, and the amount of money in the bank. They also told him they had a report of the mine from a mining engineer, showing the value of the mine. A day or two after this conversation, they showed him Sullman's report, and Schenck finally made up his mind to invest in the mine if Park would tell him how the money on it was. On the 20th of last February Schenck and Park met in Washington, and the latter submitted the following proposition: Schenck was to have 500 shares at par, Park to take 500 at par, and Park was to have the control of the mine, and showed him statements of its working operations, sales of ore and bullion, and the amount of money in the bank. They also told him they had a report of the mine from a mining engineer, showing the value of the mine. A day or two after this conversation, they showed him Sullman's report, and Schenck finally made up his mind to invest in the mine if Park would tell him how the money on it was. On the 20th of last February Schenck and Park met in Washington, and the latter submitted the following proposition: Schenck was to have 500 shares at par, Park to take 500 at par, and Park was to have the control of the mine, and Schenck was to have the control of the business. This latter was settled between Park and himself about the 1st of November, and the agreement was reduced to writing and executed, and it was not true but utterly false that Schenck was to pay $100 per share at any time prior to the date it bore. Mr. Schenck, in addition to purchasing 500 shares, Park promising to give Schenck two per cent. a month on the shares while they should be held by him, or Schenck at par. Subsequently, at Park's request, Schenck agreed to a reduction to one and a half per cent. Schenck had given his note to Park for $16,00 for thirteen months. Schenck and the said Park had received two dividends of ten per cent. a month. At the time he made this agreement they had been no organization of the company; at the time of its execution there was no suggestion whatever that he should have any office in the mine, or be connected with the company. Afterwards, however, Park and Stewart thought Schenck ought to be one of the directors, and he was elected at a meeting of the company. Schenck attended only two meetings of the board, on the 28th and 30th of March, 1875, and resigned. Schenck says he never was at the board of directors or the office of the company again. He took no part in the management except giving a proxy to vote against Gardner's scheme, by which he and his friends were to buy shares on the open market at £5 or £5 a share, and arranged with Jay Cooke, Hallowell & Co., to carry that stock, paying up as much in £2,000 each week for purchase and sale of previous shares. Eventually the scheme was given up. Schenck, in a subsequent part of his statement Mr. Schenck estimated his losses in such speculations at $50,000 or $60,000. The 500 shares originally obtained from Park, he sold twenty-five shares to Mrs. Bates, receiving £20 a share. He would have sold the remaining shares but for the fact that he had been so much abused and criticised in this connection by him to retain his shares which he now held. In explaining the settlement with Park, Schenck said he gave to him $4,000 and received from Mrs. Bates and £300 in addition, the proceeds of 15 shares. Mr. Clymer asked if he had given to Parke and which note had been returned to him. This account Schenck did not understand. Mr. Clymer asked Schenck if Park. It seemed [illegible] Schenck had some arrangement with Grant for the payment of a commission to him on the sale of stock that Grant gave Park a commission on the 500 shares he had purchased, and Grant told Schenck ought to have the benefit, as it belonged to him. In payment of the commission Schenck drew to Parke's order for $4,000. He need not trouble himself, and that he felt safe without security as with it, as the money it would be paid. Schenck then related how he paid the remainder of the amount due to Park in the Emma Mine Company, and other matters of less importance in connection with the Emma mines, and read a letter from Sir Rowndell Palmer in references to the lawsuit, disproving the statements made against him. As to Lord Mauleverer's statements he characterized as clumsy lies, he did not know he had ever seen him.

The Committee on Expenditures in the War Department to-day examined Alexander T. Gray, a clerk in the Attorney Generals office. He testified that B. G. Daniel's was the signature of Daniel's name to a post-traderships at Fort Stanton, and promised witness $1,000 if he would get it for him. Gray and Daniel, the Carpenter, recommended Daniel's and the appointment was procured, but Daniels never paid him the promised dollars.

First Lieutenant, Robert G. Carter, fourth Cavalry, testified that General Reynolds sent to General McKenzie about fifty thousand or seventy-five thousand bushels of corn brought from Adams & Wright, contractors at San Antonio, but General McKenzie, who was commander of the post, refused to receive it on the ground that it was not a fit issue and too high in price. General Reynolds then ordered him again to take it, which McKenzie again refused, and had an inspection of the grain. It was found unsalable and unsafe, and therefore unfit for issue. After McKenzie's second protest, Reynolds made a peremptory order and the former was obliged to take the grain. McKenzie represented that Adams & Wicks were bad men, that they were monopolizing the contracts of the department, and that other contractors offered to furnish corn for fifteen or twenty cents a bushel less. The result was that Reynolds preferred charges to General Halleck against McKenzie for willful and obstinate disobedience of orders, but he was never tried. Witness said the damaged corn laid around the post for a long time, and was finally wasted because the horses would not eat it.

J. E. Barrow testified that he was appointed post trader at Fort Union, New Mexico, in 1868, through the influence of W. D. W. Barnard, brother-in-law of General J. C. Dent; after trying other parties he went to Barnard, and promised to give him one-half of the profits of the post. Barnard wrote a long letter to General Grant, who was then General of the army, telling him of the proposition made and detailing the conversation had between witness and Barnard. Witness saw the letter. He enclosed an application for the appointment and got it direct from General Grant through General Smith.

Barnard, after inclosing witness' application to General Grant, wrote to Mrs. Grant, telling her of witness' proposition and asking her influence. Witness says he read the letter, and that Barnard familiarly addressed her as Julia. Barnard is now Bank examiner at St. Louis.

J. D. Wooley, post trader at fort D. A. Russell, Wyoming, testified that he paid ex-Senator Thomas, of Nebraska, $1,500 to go to Washington three or four times when attempts were made to remove witness. He contributed $400 to the Republican campaign fund during the last Presidential campaign.

Edward Rowan, of Fort McPherson, testified that R. F. Bowers, wholesale grocer in Keokuk, Iowa, and a brother-in-law of Gen. Belknap, is his partner. He did not believe that Bowers ever wrote the Secretary or spoke about the place; he asked him to do so, but he refused. Witness subscribed $300 for the last Presidential campaign fund.

The full House Committee on Judiciary held a meeting to-day to receive the report of the sub-Committee who had heard the testimony of Mr. and Mrs. Marsh and others in the Belknap case. The Committee passed upon the articles of impeachment and [illegible] present them in the House on Thursday, together with the evidence in their support. It is the general view of the Committee that this is sufficiently strong to convict him of corruption in office.

OLD-TIME RASCALITY UNEARTHED.

A special to the Boston *Advertiser* states that a startling document is which has been hidden from public knowledge for twelve years is just brought to light. It is a report of a secret court of inquiry into frauds in the quartermaster's department of the army of the Potomac made by Assistant Secretary of War Watson to Secretary Stanton, March 19, 1864, exposing a ring, consisting of Rufus Ingalls, then chief quartermaster of the army of the Potomac, Captain Edward Sprague, Stadstard, Quartermasters at Alexandria, and R. O. Ingalls (a brother of Rufus), Henry Ingalls Com

Weekly Commercial.

SATURDAY, APRIL 1, 1876.

THE Commissioner of Patents has just decided that an application for re-issue of a patent may be placed in interference with a patent granted prior to the date of filing the application for the patent which is sought to be reissued. This ruling is of interest to certain classes of our own community.

THE Bureau of Statistics reports for last month a very encouraging export trade from all the ports of $50,325,000 gold value, as against $42,014,000 same month last year On the other hand, the imports of foreign merchandise fell from $50,352,000 in February, 1875, to $37,756,000 in February, 1876. Our business scales are becoming better adjusted.

THE German Government proposes to buy out the railroads in the hands of companies, and in a preparatory report the basis of purchase is stated to be the twenty-five fold amount of the average annual net earnings for the preceding five years. This estimate produces the sum of 6425 millions of thalers, about $450,000,000 for twelve private roads. The roads cost 287 million thalers, about $200,000,000. Some are worth over three times their original cost, and they one and all earn dividends.

THE Supreme Court of the United States has just delivered two important decisions concerning the validity of town bonds issued for railroad purposes. In one case the Court affirmed the judgment of the United States Circuit Court against an Illinois town on bonds issued in payment for a subscription to the capital stock of the Chicago and Rock Island Railroad Company, for which it received in return certificates of shares of the stock, holding the issue of the bonds to have been authorized by sufficient legislation, and intimating that a defense of want of authority to issue the bonds while the town retains the shares of stock for which they were issued is not strictly honest. The other case was also an affirmance of the validity of municipal bonds issued by a New York town in aid of the construction of a railroad.

THE British Board of Trade returns for February, just published, state that the total declared value of the exports from the United Kingdom in that month was £16,482,565, against £17,467,258 in February, 1875, and £18,282,803 in February, 1874, thus showing a decline of 5 per cent. compared with last year, and of 9 per cent. compared with 1874. For the two months ended February the decline was over 3 per cent., compared with 1875, and nearly 12 per cent., compared with 1874. The total value of the imports for February was £33,780,097, against £25,925,518 in February, 1875, and £31,350,778 in February, 1874; an increase of 23 per cent. in the one case, and of 7 per cent. in the other. In the two months ended February there was an increase of 9½ per cent., compared with the corresponding period in 1875, and of nearly 7 per cent., compared with 1874.

A SHAMEFUL PLOT.

When the so called MORRISON tariff bill was first reported in committee, we stated that it was chiefly the product of DAVID A. WELLS, the notorious agent in this country of the free trade manufacturers of Great Britain. It now appears that they knew, even in advance of the committee, generally, that such a bill was coming. The February number of the *British Trade Circular* contained the following announcement, among other news paragraphs, in the middle of the magazine, one day after MORRISON'S report was published:

"That a new Tariff Bill, making a large reduction in the tariff, increasing the free list, abolishing combined rates, and fixing specific duties equal to twenty-five or thirty per cent. ad valorem, will be introduced into the House of Representatives. Whether it becomes law or not—and the probability is that the bill, if even it passed the Lower House, would be rejected by the Senate, President Grant—it at all events shows that the Free Trade party is healthily ac-

The March number of the same journal contains the following significant passage:

"If there is a glimmer of light on economical subjects to be discovered in the United States, it is in the fact that, although there is any patriotism, we might almost say, the peculiar ascendency of Protectionist policy in America might now be easily overthrown. But there is no sign of such a consummation. It is true that Mr. Morrison has brought a bill before Congress for modifying the existing scale of duties charged on imports, but a similar bill is brought in every year. No matter what its shape may be when it goes into the political mill, it either gets ground into some form of Protection, or else is torn to shreds by the time the Senate has done with it. There is a great outcry just now against State taxes in America, and for the reason that it is so much heavier than the popular enthusiasm necessary to overwhelm class opposition will hardly rise high enough to modify the hurtful tariff, even to the modest extent proposed in Mr. Morrison's bill. The bill applies to all textile goods, as well as iron, and seeks to leave the tariff at about two-thirds of its present height. The alterations are irregular and are very slight in the cases of special industries, *but would on the whole be welcomed with despair by the manufacturers on his side of the Atlantic."*

The *Bulletin of the Iron and Steel Association* very pertinently suggests that some of the English manufacturers had a hand in the preparation of the measure. And indeed it looks so, else how could the editor of the *Journal* have known, so long in advance of all Americans and Congressmen and the Committee on Ways and Means itself, that a free trade tariff bill was to be introduced into the House of Representatives? The *Bulletin* demands that MORRISON and WELLS shall be interrogated on this point by an "investigating committee," if necessary, since if our tariff laws are to be made to order for us in England, the American people have a right to know it. And if MORRISON knows that the bill which bears his name was so made, the people have a right to know that also.

POLITICAL.

State.

Captain William McClellan, the new Chairman of the Democratic State Central Committee, will soon establish his headquarters in Harrisburg.

The Republican conferees of Chester and Delaware counties met at the Bingham House, Philadelphia, on Friday. After taking several ballots they failed to agree upon a Presidential elector, and adjourned to meet at West Chester on Tuesday next. A resolution was adopted declaring that the State Convention has no authority to select a Presidential elector for their district, nor to select delegates to the Cincinnati Convention from the said district.

LORD CLYMER.

Lord Clymer he was a noble lord,
A noble of high degree;
And when he was home he paid for his board,
On his manor in Berks countee—tee—tee,
On estates in Berks countee.

One morning he rose with a Terrible Frown
To the breakfast room he came,
And said he was going to Washingtown
To uncover some chicanerie—ee,
To expose some scullduggery.

He traveled all night and he traveled full fast,
But never a-wearied was he,
And when at the city he stayed him at last,
He called him his committee—tee—tee,
The War Department Committee.

He collared Sir Belknap, the warrior so bold,
"You're the man I wanted to see;"
But he let go his "looks," straightway he was told
That his witness had jumped the ctitee—tee—tee
And he was in British territoree.

He asked for more time and he asked for more help;
For help sorely perplexed was he;
While a member, bright Robbins, with pitiful yelp,
Cried, "I'm smashed by your old committee—tee—tee;
I'm exposed on my own committee.

And wailing was heard in the committee room
When a noble from Kentuck-ie
Was sweet high and dry by this very new broom,
This investigating committee—tee—tee—
That shook it up Mr. Pandleton's tee.

But the sport it grew more complicated by far,
As on next the august committee
Looked up to observe who they had at the bar,
Mr. Clymer he groaned, "It is me—me—me,"
Ungramatically groaned "It is me."
—*Burlington (Iowa) Hawkeye.*

General.

Marcus Shaw, a former defaulting Treasurer of Otter Tail county, in Minnesota, now turns up as a Mormon preacher making a missionary tour of Maine. Doesn't it beat all where a fellow will gravitate to after he begins going down?

PENNSYLVANIA.

REPUBLICAN STATE CONVENTION.

A Splendid Day's Work.

A PLATFORM OF SOUND TIMBER.

List of Presidential Electors.

Delegates to National Convention.

THE NEW STATE COMMITTEE.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

HARRISBURG, PA., March 29, 1876.

The Republican State Convention met at noon to-day, and was called to order by Col. Henry M. Hoyt, Chairman of the State Committee. Maj. A. Wilson Norris, of the same committee, read the list of delegates.

Mr. W. H. Kountz, of Somerset, was chosen temporary Chairman. On taking the chair, he spoke at some length, referring to the proud position Pennsylvania has held in the past in the politics of the country. The speaker claimed for Pennsylvania the prestige of naming the next President. The Democratic party, which by mischance, slipped into power two years ago, was arraigned for its conduct in Congress, and denounced as the executors of the last will and testament of the dead rebellion. The past history of the Republican party was then recounted at length, and its aim for the future indicated, and the speaker closed as follows: "With such aims and such purposes, and with our honored Governor, John F. Hartranft, who has proven himself a brave soldier, a true and tried statesman, a man of unsullied and spotless reputation, as our standard bearer, there can be no doubt that victory will again perch upon the banner of the Republican party."

Committees on Resolutions and Contested Seats, consisting of one member from each Congressional district, were then appointed.

On motion of Mr. Elliott, a committee of nine, to report delegates and alternates to the National Convention, was appointed, consisting of the following: Rutan, of Beaver; Hartsicle, of Delaware; Elliott, of Philadelphia; Scull, of Somerset; Shenk, of Lancaster; Reeder, of Northampton; Patterson, of Dauphin; Magee, of Allegheny; Smiley, of Venango.

G. T. Oliver, of Pittsburgh, and Josiah Speer, of Allegheny, were named on the Committee on Resolutions. W. C. Cook, Forty-second; J. A. Melbevitt, Forty-third; C. B. Seely, Forty-fourth; and C. J. Fetterman, Forty-fifth districts, were appointed on permanent organization.

After the appointment of committees, the Convention took a recess until half-past two.

On reassembling, Hon. Edward McPherson, of Adams county, was elected President, with Vice Presidents and Secretaries.

Hon. B. B. Strang, Chairman of the Committee on Resolutions, made the following report, which was adopted with great enthusiasm:

Resolved, That we hereby reaffirm the platform adopted by the Republican State Convention in Philadelphia in 1872, and the record events at Washington, we emphatically endorse that part of it which demands honest men inofficeandwomen with brains enough to know dishonesty when they see it, and courage enough to fight it wherever they find it." The Republican party is essentially by its origin, its traditions, its history and its duties an honest party, and honest administration of public affairs, and wherever—in National, State or municipal life—maladministration has existed, the cause will be found that it was not exposed and corrected, and the guilty punished; and to this end we pledge the unit measure of our support as friends and as citizens.

Resolved, That we look to the Cincinnati Convention to give us candidates for President and Vice President who are above suspicion, and in whose personal integrity the nation can trust implicitly. And in this we also look to our friends throughout the State to make sure that, in presenting candidates for Congress and the Legislature, they select those only who are known to be honest, capable and faithful in the discharge of duty.

Resolved, That the Republicans of Pennsylvania, having nothing in their past history which they wish to hide or explain, or apologize for, or would have the nation forget, arraign the Democratic leaders in Congress, and their abettors, for their interference shown to the dearly principles, and for the subservience shown to those false leaders of the late rebel confederacy, now dominating them; for their removal from office of Union soldiers and appointment of Confederate soldiers and sympathizers, including relations of a purpose, only controlled by fear, to open the Treasury of the nation to the starving and unjust pensionary claims of the late insurrectionary States; for their persistent effort to relieve the Government from paying the interest penditure of the Government, and for the combined recklessness and cowardice which has characterized their treatment of a reckless which mischievously holds out a threat of revolution if they fail to get their way, a threat sufficient to originate a substitute for them—all which expose the Democratic party to well-merited distrust by the country, and as unfit to be trusted by the country which, when last under their control, they nearly lost the independence of the Union.

Resolved, That recent events in the late slave States, and the startling revelations on the part of the Democratic party to seize them all, and wield them, as a unit, in the next Presidential election, to the full extent of their bloody conspiracies have been made to coerce voters, and base legislation to overthrow the rights; and as against these outrages we take an appeal to the people of the nation.

Resolved, That the entire withdrawal demands that our public schools shall not only be free from sectarian or denominational influence in whole or partial control. All attempts to divide the school fund, for any purpose whatever, or to divert any portion of it into any channel not under popular control, to be frowned upon and resisted with unyielding firmness. Resolved, That in the adoption by the Legislature of Maryland of a Constitutional amendment to secure the common school fund of that State against division, reveals at once a grave danger and its source, and with other like facts making manifest the necessity for action to such an amendment to the Constitution of the United States as when adopted, will effectually defend the Common School system from all enemies open or covert.

Resolved, That the contempt of the Democratic House of Representatives at Washington, in the face of the depressed condition of American industries, to inflict upon the nation a free trade tariff, is an insult to the intelligence of the people, and the duty of the Republican party to the Democratic party to meet the present wants of the country. The remedy for our suffering industries is a high tariff, not in a lower, tariff.

Resolved, That the neglect of the public business of the State by the present majority in the lower branch of the Legislature, and the plain political purpose of that majority to recklessly prolong the session with the sole object of securing partisan advantage, is unworthy of the strongest censure, and must, if persisted in, awaken the just indignation of an outraged people.

Resolved, That the uniform policy of the Republican party of Pennsylvania, in keeping down the burdens of taxation, and while steadily reducing the public debt, should be persistently maintained; that the money of the people and the public expenditures should be confined to the civil expense of the State Government, the interest on the State debt, the support of the public charities, and the efficiency of her reformatory and penal institutions.

Resolved, That the recommendation by Governor Hartranft for a uniform system of municipal government throughout the State, and of the addition of effective measure: to prevent a fraudulent increase of the municipal indebtedness, is worthy of all commendation, and should be put into practical operation at as early a day as possible.

Hon. J. S. Rutan Chairman of the committee appointed to select suitable persons for Presidential electors and delegates to the National Convention at Cincinnati, then made their report, which was adopted, as follows:

The following gentlemen were selected as delegates at large: Hon. James Pollock, H. Brewster, Philadelphia; John W. Confant, Allegheny.

Electors—1, Philadelphia, Henry Disston, Philadelphia; 2, Christian J. Hoffman, Philadelphia; 3, Charles Gilpin, Philadelphia; 4, Edwin A. Fitler, Philadelphia; 5, Edwin A. Fitler, Philadelphia; 6, Dr. Benjamin Smith, Bucks; 7, John Fernandez, Montgomery; 8, Jonathan Roberts, Delaware; 9, Abraham B. Weitzel, Lancaster; 10, Dr. Joseph Thomas, Bucks; 11, Artemus Lamb, Luzerne; 12, Edward B. Chase, Wilkesbarre, John G. Noakes, Scranton; McKean, W. J. Colezrove, Colezrove; Mercer, J. C. Brown, Greenville; Mifflin, E. Hamilton, Samuel A. Weiser; Beavertown; Somerset, Major E. M. Shrock, Somerset; Susquehanna, Capt. John C. Morris, Friendsville; Sullivan, S. L. Ingham, Laporte; Troga, J. B. Potter, Wellsboro; Union, George W. Schock, Lewisburg; Venango, Charles W. Mackey, Franklin; Warren, George O. Carnahan, Warren; Washington, Joan C. McNary, Canonsburg; Wayne, Henry M. Seely, Honesdale; Westmoreland, Jos. A. Hunter, Greensburg Wyoming, Cyrus D. Camp, Tunkhannock; York, A. K. McClure, York.

Colonel Henry M. Hoyt was re-elected Chairman of the State Committee.

The Convention then adjourned, after a session marked by entire harmony and the utmost good feeling.

OHIO.

REPUBLICAN STATE CONVENTION.

A Sound Financial Platform.

Hayes Presented for President.

COLUMBUS, March 29.—The Republican State Convention assembled at the Opera House this morning, a full delegation being present from all the districts of the State, and many visitors from each. General John C. Lee, of Toledo, was chosen Temporary President, and made a short speech, warmly urging united action. A committee on nominations and Permanent Officers then retired to the committee room to make up their report.

The following resolutions were adopted:

Resolved, That the Centennial year we again affirm our devotion to those fundamental principals upon which the Republic and the public prosperity of the Government depend; these are, first, the preservation of the liberties, equal rights and all citizens throughout, and an impartial and vigorous administration of the laws in every part of the country for protection of the government and the rights of private rights and the punishment of violence and crime, and the just and economical administration of every department of the Government, so as to produce the greatest benefit to the people with as little burden of taxation as may be consistent therewith.

Third, the safety of the Republic depends upon the intelligence as well as virtue of its citizens, and it is essential that the public school system should be maintained in common that every child may receive such education as will fit him for useful citizenship, and we are unalterably opposed to any division of the public school money for any purpose whatever.

Fourth, public virtue and intelligence in public affairs and wherever—in National, State or municipal life—maladministration has existed, the cause will be found that it was not exposed and corrected, and the guilty punished; and to this end we pledge the unit measure of our support as friends and as citizens.

Resolved, That we look to the Cincinnati Convention to give us candidates for President and Vice President who are above suspicion, and in whose personal integrity the nation can trust implicitly. And in this we also look to our friends throughout the State to make sure that, in presenting candidates for Congress and the Legislature, they select those only who are known to be honest, capable and faithful in the discharge of duty.

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Hon. J. S. Rutan Chairman of the committee appointed to select suitable persons for Presidential electors and delegates to the National Convention at Cincinnati, then made their report, which was adopted, as follows:

The following gentlemen were selected as delegates at large: James Pollock, H. Brewster, Philadelphia; John W. Confant, Allegheny.

Electors—1, Philadelphia, Henry Disston, Philadelphia; 2, Christian J. Hoffman, Philadelphia; 3, Charles Gilpin, Philadelphia; 4, Edwin A. Fitler, Philadelphia; 5, Edwin A. Fitler, Philadelphia; 6, Dr. Benjamin Smith, Bucks; 7, John Fernandez, Montgomery; 8, Jonathan Roberts, Delaware; 9, Abraham B. Weitzel, Lancaster; 10, Dr. Joseph Thomas, Bucks; 11, Artemus Lamb, Luzerne; 12, Edward B. Chase, Wilkesbarre, John G. Noakes, Scranton; McKean, W. J. Colezrove, Colezrove; Mercer, J. C. Brown, Greenville; Mifflin, E. Hamilton, Samuel A. Weiser, Beavertown; Somerset, Major E. M. Shrock, Somerset; Susquehanna, Capt. John C. Morris, Friendsville; Sullivan, S. L. Ingham, Laporte; Troga, J. B. Potter, Wellsboro; Union, George W. Schock, Lewisburg; Venango, Charles W. Mackey, Franklin; Warren, George O. Carnahan, Warren; Washington, Joan C. McNary, Canonsburg; Wayne, Henry M. Seely, Honesdale; Westmoreland, Jos. A. Hunter, Greensburg Wyoming, Cyrus D. Camp, Tunkhannock; York, A. K. McClure, York.

Colonel Henry M. Hoyt was re-elected Chairman of the State Committee.

The Convention then adjourned, after a session marked by entire harmony and the utmost good feeling.

VERMONT.

THE REPUBLICANS IN COUNCIL

Specie Payments and Honest Government Demanded.

BURLINGTON, VT., March 29.—The Republican State Convention to select delegates to the Cincinnati Convention assembled this morning. Russell S. Taft was chosen Presidential, and one Vice President. After the transaction of routine business the Convention took a recess. Upon reassembling the following delegates at large were unanimously elected: Governor Fletcher, Colonel Wheelock G. Veazeoy, Geo. Howe and George H. Bigelow. The following resolutions were adopted:

Resolved, That the Centennial year we again affirm our devotion to those fundamental principals upon which the Republic and the public prosperity of the Government depend; these are, first, the preservation of the liberties, equal rights and all citizens throughout, and an impartial and vigorous administration of the laws in every part of the country for protection of the government and the rights of private rights and the punishment of violence and crime, and the just and economical administration of every department of the Government, so as to produce the greatest benefit to the people with as little burden of taxation as may be consistent therewith.

Third, the safety of the Republic depends upon the intelligence as well as virtue of its citizens, and it is essential that the public school system should be maintained in common that every child may receive such education as will fit him for useful citizenship, and we are unalterably opposed to any division of the public school money for any purpose whatever.

Fourth, public virtue and intelligence in public affairs and wherever—in National, State or municipal life—maladministration has existed, the cause will be found that it was not exposed and corrected, and the guilty punished; and to this end we pledge the unit measure of our support as friends and as citizens.

Resolved, That we look to the Cincinnati Convention to give us candidates for President and Vice President who are above suspicion, and in whose personal integrity the nation can trust implicitly. And in this we also look to our friends throughout the State to make sure that, in presenting candidates for Congress and the Legislature, they select those only who are known to be honest, capable and faithful in the discharge of duty.

Resolved, That the Republicans of Pennsylvania, having nothing in their pas: history which they wish to hide or explain, or apologize for, or would have the nation forget, arraign the Democratic leaders in Congress, and their abettors, for their interference shown to the dearly principles, and for the subservience shown to those false leaders of the late rebel confederacy, now dominating them: for their removal from office of Union soldiers and appointment of Confederate soldiers and sympathizers, including relations of a purpose, only controlled by fear, to open the Treasury of the nation to the starving and unjust pensionary claims of the late insurrectionary States; for their persistent effort to relieve the Government from paying the interest penditure of the Government, and for the combined recklessness and cowardice which has characterized their treatment of a reckless which mischievously holds out a threat of revolution if they fail to get their way, a threat sufficient to originate a substitute for them—all which expose the Democratic party to well-merited distrust by the country, and as unfit to be trusted by the country which, when last under their control, they nearly lost the independence of the Union.

Resolved, That recent events in the late slave States, and the startling revelations on the part of the Democratic party to seize them all, and wield them, as a unit, in the next Presidential election, to the full extent of their bloody conspiracies have been made to coerce voters, and base legislation to overthrow the rights; and as against these outrages we take an appeal to the people of the nation.

Resolved, That the entire withdrawal demands that our public schools shall not only be free from sectarian or denominational influence in whole or partial control. All attempts to divide the school fund, for any purpose whatever, or to divert any portion of it into any channel not under popular control, to be frowned upon and resisted with unyielding firmness. Resolved, That in the adoption by the Legislature of Maryland of a Constitutional amendment to secure the common school fund of that State against division, reveals at once a grave danger and its source, and with other like facts making manifest the necessity for action to such an amendment to the Constitution of the United States, as when adopted, will effectually defend the Common School system from all enemies open or covert.

Resolved, That the contempt of the Democratic House of Representatives at Washington, in the face of the depressed condition of American industries, to inflict upon the nation a free trade tariff, is an insult to the intelligence of the people, and the duty of the Republican party to the Democratic party to meet the present wants of the country. The remedy for our suffering industries is a high tariff, not in a lower, tariff.

Resolved, That the neglect of the public business of the State by the present majority in the lower branch of the Legislature, and the plain political purpose of that majority to recklessly prolong the session with the sole object of securing partisan advantage, is unworthy of the strongest censure, and must, if persisted in, awaken the just indignation of an outraged people.

Resolved, That the uniform policy of the Republican party of Pennsylvania, in keeping down the burdens of taxation, and while steadily reducing the public debt, should be persistently maintained; that the money of the people and the public expenditures should be confined to the civil expense of the State Government, the interest on the State debt, the support of the public charities, and the efficiency of her reformatory and penal institutions.

Resolved, That the recommendation by Governor Hartranft for a uniform system of municipal government throughout the State, and of the addition of effective measure: to prevent a fraudulent increase of the municipal indebtedness, is worthy of all commendation, and should be put into practical operation at as early a day as possible.

A Methodist Centennial.

RALEIGH, March 25.—To-night closes the week's run of the Methodist Centennial. An assembly of two thousand souls people is present, among whom are Bishops McTyere, Marvin, and Doggett. Twelve thousand dollars was raised for another Methodist college in this city. Dr. Pritchard, the Metropolitan. John N. Staples, of Greensboro, made the closing address today, and said the great want of the country was Christian men in office. He invoked the spirit of reconciliation and fraternal love in all sections of the country. The oldest minister present is Rev. J. H. Wheeler, who is seventy odd years of age. Several preachers brought their brides with them.

Foreclosing Mortgages in Indiana.

INDIANAPOLIS, March 28.—The Supreme Court has in a made a ruling in reference to suits on mortgages, which is of great interest to all property owners. It is this: In a foreclosure suit it is necessary, in order to secure a perfect title, not only to make all persons holding subsequent judgments, mortgages or liens parties, but also all persons holding any of the notes secured by such mortgages, although there is no assignment of record showing by whom such notes are held. And, unless this is done, the holder of any such note may, at any time, after the sheriff has executed a deed for sale, redeem the property by paying to the owner the amount of the mortgage and the interest under which the property was sold at Sheriff's sale, after deducting therefrom the value of the use or rent of the property during the time between such sale and redemption.

Fatal Mining Accident.

SCRANTON, March 25.—A shocking accident occurred to-day at the Pine Brook coal shaft, by which two miners named Kelley and Kilcullin were instantly killed at their work in a chamber of the mine. They had fired a blast and were about to remove the coal brought down by it when they were completely overwhelmed by the falling of the roof. Hundreds of tons of coal and rock came crashing upon them without a moment's warning, and it was with great difficulty their bodies were removed by their panic-stricken comrades. Both men were married and leave large families.

XLIV. CONGRESS.

FIRST SESSION.

WASHINGTON D. C., March 23, 1876.

SENATE.

Mr. EDMUNDS, from the Committee on the Judiciary, reported favorably the bill to permit the Judge of the District Court in Pennsylvania to be retired.

Mr. MORTON gave notice that on Monday next he would ask the Senate to take up and dispose of the resolution to investigate alleged frauds in the recent elections in Mississippi.

Mr. WRIGHT said he would ask the Senator from Michigan (Christiancy) to call up and press for consideration the motion to reconsider the vote on the bill fixing the salary of the President.

Mr. CHRISTIANCY said he did not care to call up the matter; he had given such notice the other day, because he thought some friends of the measure wanted to say something more on the subject; he had no interest in its reconsideration; he only give Senators in favor of the measure another chance to speak.

Mr. WRIGHT said he would not now urge the matter, but he thought it should be called up speedily and disposed of.

The morning hour expiring, the CHAIR laid before the Senate the unfinished business of yesterday, being the bill to count the vote for President and Vice President.

Mr. MORRILL moved to amend the second section so that the Senate should not return until it could which shall be duly authenticated from the authorities recognized by and in harmony with the United States, as provided by the Constitution." The question was taken by yeas and nays, resulting—yeas 32, nays 32.

Question was then taken on the amendment proposed by Mr. Morrill, and it was agreed to.

The question was then taken upon the passage of the bill, and was passed.

Mr. HILL said he was at a loss to see what Senators could see in this bill of a partisan nature, and he moved the reconsideration of the vote whereby the bill was passed, in order to give one more chance to fix some bill up speedily and dispose of it before the returns were sent in. He did hope that in that chamber where debate was allowed, some measure could be perfected that would meet the necessity of the case. If not, there was no hope of getting at it this Congress. The motion was entered.

The Senate took up the Consular and Diplomatic bill, and proceeded to consider sections, and then went into executive session and soon adjourned.

HOUSE.

Mr. HOLMAN presented a memorial of the Women's Temperance League of Indiana, asking for legislation to promote temperance in the United States. Referred.

Mr. BLAND, from the Committee on Appropriations, reported a bill to supply a deficiency of $62,000 for the manufacture of postage stamps for the fiscal year ending the 30th of June, 1876. Passed.

Mr. WILSHIRE, from the Committee on Indian Affairs, reported a bill to provide a territorial government for the Indian Territory, and moved the previous question.

Mr. SOUTHARD moved to refer it to the Committee on Territories. After discussion the bill was referred to the Committee on Indian Affairs.

The SPEAKER then called committees for reports of a private nature.

The House went into Committee of the Whole (Cox in the Chair) on the bill to fix the Executive and Judicial appropriation bill, with the understanding that general debate should be limited to one hour.

Mr. HURLBUT, of Illinois, replied to the invectives which had been poured against the Republican party by the gentlemen from Georgia and North Carolina [Hill and Yeates], and criticized the speech of the gentleman from Georgia as an astonishing parody on the parable of the Prodigal Son, with the difference that the Prodigal Son asked his father's forgiveness, while the Southern people did not. He said he believed there existed a division to this day in the public sentiment of this country between those who believed that levying war was a crime, and those who did not so believe, and that it existed as strong as it did in 1864 and 1865. He then proceeded to argue against the reduction of the salaries of Government officials.

Mr. KASSON suggested that in the matter of economy the majority of the House wanted to go possibly too far, and the minority possibly not far enough. He proposed to see if there was not some ground on which careful and prudent men on both sides could continue in the consideration of this bill. Proceeding to discuss the reduction of salaries, he declared that he would a thousand times rather strike down the compensation of members of Congress to what it was prior to 1865, $3,000, than touch the poor pay of the various employees of the Government, who are only receiving now the same as they received thirty years ago. He would not touch those established salaries. The proposed reductions in the State Department meant, not retrenchment but disorganization. The fact was that the Committee on Appropriations, in reporting this bill, struck down the force of the departments without the approval and consent of the departments and, in some instances, without consulting the departments.

At the close of Mr. KASSON'S speech, the committee proceeded to consider the bill in detail. The item for the compensation of Senators, which is the first item in the bill, having been read, which fixes the salary at $1,500, Mr. BAKER, of Indiana, moved to reduce it to $3,000. Rejected.

Mr. FOSTER moved to reduce it to $2,700, and intimated that the Democratic majority if it wanted to be consistent, should vote for a reduction to $2,700.

Mr. RANDALL [interrupting]—Why did you not propose that amendment in committee, instead of resisting the motion of the gentleman from Illinois?

Mr. FOSTER—I am not to be catechised on the floor.

Mr. RANDALL [persistently]—I want to know how you can reconcile the alternative of a session for debate for to-morrow, the former proposition prevailing, through the influence of Mr. Page, and the House adjourned till Monday.

WASHINGTON, D. C., March 27, 1876.

SENATE.

The Chair laid before the Senate a communication from the Secretary of War, enclosing a communication from the Commissary General of Subsistence, asking for an appropriation of $30,000 for the subsistence of the army, with authority to expend the same during the present fiscal year, to enable the purchase of subsistence stores to be made and forwarded to the military posts in Arizona, New Mexico, and other outposts by the beginning of the coming fiscal year.

Mr. SPENCER, from the Committee on District of Columbia, reported back the bill relative to colored citizens praying that the 14th day of April be established as a holiday for Government employés in the various departments in Washington be granted a holiday on the 14th of April, 1876, to attend the unveiling of the Lincoln monument in Lincoln Park, Washington.

Mr. HAMLIN, from the Committee on Post-offices and Post-roads, reported the bill having a letter of marque and reprisal, with amendments. Ordered.

Mr. CAMERON, of Wisconsin, from the Committee on Commerce, reported favorably on the bill to construct a pontoon bridge across the Mississippi river from some feasible point in La Crosse county, Wisconsin, to some point in Houston county, Minnesota. Calendar.

Mr. JONES, of Florida, offered a resolution calling upon the Secretary of State for information as to the compensation he received from the funds of his department paid by the Government of Venezuela on account of the claim of the Venezuelan Company against the United States and Venezuela. Passed.

Mr. MORTON called up the resolution for the appointment of a committee to investigate frauds in Mississippi elections.

Mr. CHRISTIANCY introduced an amendment and proceeded to discuss its points.

Mr. MORTON said he was willing to accept the substitute.

Mr. COOPER demanded the regular order, and the Chair put before the Senate the Consular and Diplomatic bill as the business before the Senate.

Mr. MORTON moved to lay aside that bill, and finish the Mississippi resolution. After debate the question was taken on it.

Mr. MORTON demanded the yeas and nays, and the motion was lost, yeas 28, nays 31.

The Senate then proceeded to the consideration of the Consular and Diplomatic bill.

Mr. SARGENT said the committee had declined to agree to the cutting down of the House, and inserted amendments restoring salaries, but not exp nding any more than has been expended in former years. About forty consulates had been abolished by the House, which the committee had restored.

Mr. CONKLING obtained leave to introduce a joint resolution requesting the President of the United States, if compatible with his duties, to accept the invitation of Peru to join in a conference of the Governments of North and South America, with a view to the amelioration and codification of International law, Foreign Relations.

Mr. WITHERS did not believe with the committee that all these consulates were necessary. He believed that this was a time for a general reduction and economy. Possibly the House may have gone too far on some of these points, but he believed the country would approve of a general reduction.

The question was taken on the first amendment proposed by the Senate Committee, as follows: For salaries of Envoys Extraordinary and Ministers Plenipotentiary to Great Britain, France, Germany and Russia fixed by the House at $14,056, the committee moved to strike out $14,056 and insert $17,570, and the Senate agreed to the amendment.

The next amendment was on restoring Italy to its former position, but which had been stricken out by the House. Messrs. Edmunds, Hamlinand Morton advocated, and Messrs. Bayard and Withers opposed it.

Pending the consideration, Mr. CAMERON moved to go into Executive Session, but met with so much opposition that he was induced to withdraw the motion, and it was noticed that at three o'clock to-morrow he would insist upon an Executive Session.

Mr. MORRILL, of Vermont, then advocated the Senate amendment in restoring Italy, and he could not recall a time when danger of its evils predicted, and no loss could result to the people, as silver coin would be current at its nominal value. He proposed to be issued was not debased coin, as spoken of by the gentleman from New York [Hewitt], but coin of the standard authorized weight and purity, and therefore valuable than that issued by most countries of Europe. As to the second objection, that silver coin might not remain on account of an increased value in the gold premium or in the silver premium, he would be gratified to see some provisions of law could be enacted which would appreciate the greenbacks, or if such a condition of things could not be reached as could produce the same result, for then silver coin would certainly remain out. In the absence of such a condition of things, some risk must be encountered; but before the adjournment of Congress he hoped the success or failure of the undertaking would be settled, and if there were any error, it could be easily corrected.

Various amendments were offered by Messrs. Wells, of Missouri, Holman, Townsend, of New York, and others.

The committee then rose and reported the bill and amendments, with the understanding that the House would proceed to consider the bill, and votes be taken on each amendment.

The House then adjourned.

WASHINGTON, D. C., March 29, 1876.

SENATE.

After the introduction of bills and petitions, one of the latter being the petition of General Custer and others, that the Indian Commission for the Sioux may be given to two veteran officers of the army, and held for several years, the Indians, the Senate resumed the consideration of the Consular and Diplomatic bill.

The pending question was on the motion to reconsider the vote by which the bill was passed.

Mr. WALLACE, of Pennsylvania, spoke in opposition to the restoration of the appropriations stricken out by the House.

The Senate then proceeded to consider the amendments proposed by the Committee on Appropriations, of which were twenty-seven. The various amendments were explained as restoring services to existing laws only, creating no new consulates and increasing no salaries, only restoring what the House had stricken out. The bill was then passed, yeas 34 nays 27—yeas 35, nays 17.

On motion of Mr. MORTON, the resolution for the appointment of a committee to investigate alleged frauds in the recent elections of Mississippi was taken up and made the unfinished business.

The Senate went into executive session, and at 4:40 adjourned.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

Mr. RANDALL, from the Committee on Rules, introduced a resolution authorizing the Speaker to appoint one additional member of the Committee on Appropriations, the Indian Affairs and Public Lands from among the delegates from the Territories. Adopted.

Mr. BLAND, Chairman of the Committee on Appropriations, reported a bill to provide for the payment of the unclaimed awards of goods to the Centennial Exhibition at Philadelphia. Passed.

Mr. BLAND, from the Committee on Rules, reported a resolution fixing the compensation of witnesses summoned before the House Committee at two dollars per day, and mileage at ten cents per mile. Referred.

Mr. HOAR introduced a bill to permit the Attorney General to practice in the courts in any foreign language. Referred.

Mr. GORDON offered a resolution directing the Judiciary Committee to report on the expediency of preventing the use of the United States mails in carrying lottery advertisements. Adopted.

The SPEAKER laid before the House two communications from the District Attorney for the District of Columbia informing the House that the Grand Jury had found an indictment against Hallet Kilbourne, the recusant witness in the real estate pool investigation on the Freedmen's and another from Mr. Thompson, Sergeant-at-Arms, informing the House that the United States Marshal for the District of Columbia had come to him and requested that Hallet Kilbourne be given into his custody, which he (Thompson) had refused to do, and asking further instructions from the House.

The question was whether the recusant witness should be surrendered to the judicial authorities of the District to be tried under the indictment or whether he should be retained to testify, was discuss

BANK ROBBERS FOILED.

The Value of a Plucky Cashier—The Story of the Daring Plot to Rob the National Bank of Chambersburg—Lying in Wait Nearly a Year—A Hand-to Hand Contest—A Forty-yard Chase of Johnson, from Pittsburgh, Implicated.

[Special Correspondence of the Philadelphia Times.]

CHAMBERSBURG, March 26.—A bold but unsuccessful attempt was made about nine o'clock last evening to rob the National Bank of Chambersburg. The particulars of the occurrence are as follows: About a year ago a man, giving his name as Ralph L. Rollins, came here and engaged rooms at the Washington House for himself, wife and a lovely brother-in-law. They remained at this house some four or five months, but for some reasons left and went to the National Hotel, where the party (with the exception of the brother-in-law) have remained ever since. The sick boy was some time either in August or September last. Rollins represented himself to have been a General in the Southern army, that he resided in New Orleans, and his visit here was solely on account of the health of his brother-in-law, who was in the last stages of consumption. He and his wife were well educated and apparently very refined in their manners and customs. They made a good impression and gained the confidence of the first families of the town, among others that of George R. Messersmith, Esq., cashier of the National Bank, to whom they had become very intimate, scarcely a day passing without one or the other calling. Last evening about eight o'clock Mr. J. B. Kindline, a fellow-boarder at Mr. Messersmith) answered the door-bell, and found Rollins, in company with another man, who was introduced as "this friend, Mr. Johnson." Kindline called to Mr. Messersmith was at home, and after being informed that he was not, remarked that they would probably call again during the evening. About nine o'clock Mr. Kindline again answered the bell and found the same parties in waiting. Knowing the intimacy that existed between them he had once escorted them to Mr. Messersmith's private office, in the rear of the banking-room. Rollins introduced his friend Johnson, and remarked that they had called to purchase Mr. Messersmith's farm. After a few moments' conversation on this subject, they asked permission to deposit an envelope containing $30,000 for safe-keeping during the night. This was granted, and the vault being thrown open, after depositing a draft, the signal was given to Mr. Kindline, and both men seized Mr. M. and endeavored to gag him, flourishing a dagger and revolver in his face to intimidate him. In this, as in all their efforts, they were unsuccessful, for Mr. M. not only succeeded in removing the gag every time it was put on, but actually threw Johnson down a flight of stairs, and finally opened the door leading to the dining room and cried "Murder!" This alarmed the would-be robbers, who at once opened the door, seized them a package containing $30,000. They ran to the front hall door, where they were met by Mr. Kindline, who declined opening it, although Rollins held a revolver at his breast, threatening to shoot if he did not. They then ran out the back way, but were here confronted by William Scott, a young colored man, who happened to be in the kitchen. Rollins and Johnson jumped from the balcony down eight or nine steps. In doing this Johnson fell and was captured by Scott, who held him until assistance arrived. The $30,000, together with two revolvers and a large knife, were taken from him, and Johnson was at once placed in jail. Johnson succeeded in escaping for the time, reaching London about one o'clock. This morning he took the train for Harrisburg, but was recognized at Mercersburg by ex-Sheriff Greenawalt, who had gone there in search of him. He was brought here at noon, and in default of $30,000 bail committed to await his trial. Johnson arrived here March 9, and registered at the National Hotel as being from Pittsburgh. He is an intelligent, fine-looking man, about thirty years of age, and does not look like the desperate man he certainly must be. Three loaded pistols, burglars' tools, gowns, masks, etc., have been found in lots adjoining the bank property, showing conclusively that there were other parties outside who were interested in the job. The impression is that the plan was to gag the whole household, five in number, as that many gags have been found. It is almost certain that other arrests may be made. The excitement in the town last night and to-day has been very great, indeed so high did it run last night that it looked as though a fatal affair might prevail in Rollins' case. The bank does not lose one cent, but on the other hand are ahead $85, this being the amount found in the possession of the party said to contain $10,000. Mr. Messersmith, though somewhat shocked and bruised from the rough treatment received, is at his post to-day.

THE DEVIL'S NET.

A Specimen Bait Thrown Out to Catch Unsuspecting "Country Girls."

Following is a copy of a letter lithographed on stone and printed so as to resemble ordinary handwriting, received in this city a few days ago from Philadelphia, signed Hayes, Arlington & Bro. The letter was addressed to a young woman, but as the carrier handed it to the girl at the door, he opened it without looking at the address particularly, and thus the affair fell into his hands without his daughter seeing it at all. It is as follows, word for word, as it was published in the *Eagle* for publication, hoping that the false contents will be exposed and people warned through the columns of the *Eagle*. The letter reads as follows: "Miss ——, our agent has been through your city this month, sent especially to us to gather the names of suitable young ladies to whom the proposition to give employment at least four months during the coming summer. We, of course, want honesty and respectable looking people and your name from our agent's report We have been selected by the Centennial Committee to engage for them at least 200 young ladies for the season of attending to the flower stands, act as cashiers in the several refreshment departments, sell tickets for the grand elevator, take charge of news stands, sell programmes, books, &c., attend to soda water founta ns, and many other light and respectable situations. Besides paying you well, say from eight to fifteen dollars per week, and finding your meals, you will have a fine opportunity of seeing the grand Centennial Exhibition every day. You will therefore see that the position must be filled early, as we want to engage everybody we want by the middle of April, and then have them thoroughly drilled and posted by the time the Exhibition opens. We have decided to select young ladies from out of town because the neighboring cities should be benefited as well as Philadelphia. Of course, you cannot object to your leaving home. It would therefore be best for you to say nothing about this until you are here and then write to them. However, you can do as you please about that. We would like to have you here by the thirteenth of April. Answer immediately, when we will send you a letter of instructions how to come to Philadelphia, how to see us and how to proceed. Your wages will be decided as soon as you come and put to you in addition for the first four weeks, commencing the day after you get here."

The letter is undoubtedly calculated to lead young girls in some sort of disreputable net and no doubt has been sent to any of that sort. The idea, probably is, to induce young women to go to Philadelphia, and once there, they will soon fall into the wicked hands of those who are seeing to destroy them.—*Reading Eagle*.

A First Rate Notice.

[From the Oakland (Cal.) Times.]

The double-headed dunag, crawling-forked-tongued, venomed-toothed, green cobra, that stung to death the long list of Bakers and Tracys, that murdered Ralston, and that fattens on the pains of others, has wound its dark and sinuous way down close to the edge of its native swamp, and with its little, glistening, cold wicked eye is peering over into our paradise. "Stealing," as always, "the livery of the court of heaven to serve the devil in," its hiss this time emerges from the partially concealing folds of the deacon's long, sleek coat of black and tie of white. On, pastors—fathers and mothers—editors, your boy girl is approaching the dangerous age. Don't aspire to the fame of a Tweed or a Bolknap; to become the chosen companion of gamblers and tipplers; but oh, for God's sake warn him against a hypocrite—one who because he can't get the confidence of the people around him, assumes the sanctimonious cant of religion, and is the most contemptible thing—a smooth, sleek hypocrite—one who betrays with a kiss, and who steals near his victim by directing his attention upward—for then and there he should rip, claw and bite with all the rest of his life" and be condemned to the lowest depth of perdition through a long eternity.

THE following statement showing the exports of the principal articles of British and Irish produce and manufactures from the United Kingdom to the United States, during the *two months* ended February 28th and 29th, 1875 and 1876, respectively, has been furnished by the Chief of the Bureau of Statistics:

Articles.	1875.	1876
Alkali	£195,916	£132,705
Apparel and slops	16,154	9,840
Beer and ale	£ 39,614	£ 23,314
Copper, wrought, cwts	38	109
Cotton piece goods of all kinds, yards	21,478,500	17,477,600
Earthen and chinaware	£38,455	£ 33,877
Haberdashery and millinery goods	£167,172	£ 81,380
Hardware and cutlery	£105,264	£ 74,134
Iron, pig, tons	7,291	5,078
Bar, angle, bolt and rod, tons	618	432
Railroad of all sorts, tons	4,981	54
Hoops, sheets, and boiler and armor plates, tons	379	313
Tin plates, tons	17,201	15,141
Cast or wrought, tons	997	916
Old, for manufacture, tons	445	1,201
Steel, unwrought, tons	2,597	1,152
Lead, pig, rolled, sheet, pipe, &c., tons		204
Linen piece goods, yards	25,165,200	29,603,900
Machinery, other than steam engines	£28,169	£16,834
Paper, writing and printing, and envelopes	£3,709	£1,821
Other kinds	£5,576	£3,564
Salt, rock and white, tons	45,724	43,974
Silks, broad stuffs of silk or satin	80,479	63,708
Silks, ribbons, &c	£2,837	£1,393
Ribbons of all kinds	£4,841	£4,102
Other articles of silk and other materials	£4,467	£3,995
Spirits, British and Irish, gallons	10,691	7,159
Stationery, other than paper	£10,793	£11,564
Tin, unwrought, cwt	6,980	2,275
Wool, sheep and lambs', lbs	89,900	23,500
Woollen clothing, coating, duffels, &c., yards	9,250,900	697,800
Worsted stuffs, yards	14,493,700	10,680,800
Carpets, not being rugs, yards	792,900	755,900

PENNSYLVANIA OIL REGIONS.

Details as to New Wells—No Heavy Producers Reported—More Gas for Pittsburgh—Items from the Clarion District—Parker and Karns City Railroad to be Extended to Butler—Cheerful Business Prospects at Parker—License or No License —A Dead-Lock in the Armstrong County Court on the Question.

[Special Correspondence of Pittsburgh Commercial.]

PARKER CITY, March 25, 1876.

No heavy strikes have occurred in any portion of the oil regions during the week. As illustrative of the fact that the new second crop wells coming in will not have a tendency to inflate the stocks on hand, L. H. Smith & Co., tubed a new well this week on the Dugan farm, adjoining the Diviner farm, on which the renowned Diviner well was located, one of the largest flowing wells in this district, which new well is doing only about ten barrels a day.

On the Moore farm H. L. Taylor & Co. have struck a new well, which is producing between five and six barrels.

Calder & Co.'s new well on the Fletcher farm is doing about fifteen barrels a day.

On the Jamison farm the Crawford well, which came in this week, is not producing more than ten or twelve barrels.

In the vicinity of Karns City the Brooks and Mercer well is down 1,340 feet. This well is located on the Banks farm. Another new well on this farm was tubed on Thursday. On the same farm John Salisbury is drilling a new well, which is down between four and five hundred feet. Several months since his Sylvan Grove well, on this farm, was quite a success. Gordon Bros. have also a new rig up on this farm.

On the Widow Scott farm, Brownson & Co. have commenced drilling a new well.

On the McClymans farm, Rigney & Stone are putting up a rig preparatory to cleaning out an old well, which was drilled to the rock and shandoned. They purpose then drilling for the fourth sand.

A new well has just commenced drilling on the Widow Smith farm.

The Reed Real Estate Company are drilling a well on the Cyrus Campbell farm, which is down between seven and eight hundred feet. They are also drilling one on the Gibson farm, which is not.

Hutchison & Co. have also a rig up on the Gibson farm.

Vandegrift, Pitcairn & Co's well on the Harvey heirs, near Scrubgrass Station, on the Butler branch of the West Penn Railroad, has passed the first sand rock at a depth of 1,550 feet. No gas was found in the first, and they are now drilling for the third sand, which they expect to reach at about 1,800 feet. The well it now down in the neighborhood of 1,600 feet, but the hill water below the first sand is not quenched. A line of hose was taken through the town from the well to Main street and from thence there was safe opportunity for good work across the alley, the Pennsylvania Railroad and the Allegheny River to the Fort Wayne office buildings and the freight depot, falling fire brands by the hose, but a copious application of water prevented it. The middle walls of the block crumbled in, sending up showers of sparks far and wide, mostly in an eastern and southern direction, and the high block of brick buildings at Eleventh and Penn, the Rush house, the elevator, and even the Union depot were covered with them. There was danger that some of these might ignite, and the force of water failed to reach the top of the high walls, and many individuals who could obtain access to the roofs, only could be depended upon to quench the sparks as they fell in the neighborhood. The eastern wall of the burning block first fell crushing in the special correspondence of the COMMERCIAL, as doing about forty-four feet.

On the Altman farm another late strike is the Cunningham well, which is producing about twelve barrels.

Much interest is felt in operations in the vicinity of Edenburg, where considerable activity prevails. Patterson and Leedom, about four miles northeast of the town, struck the sand this week, and is doing about ten barrels. A number of new rigs are already projected in its vicinity, but the amount of paying territory is certainly very narrow, as several dry holes have gone down on both sides of the line on which it is located.

The market during the week has ranged from $2 00 to $2 10. While some contend that the short interest are necessitated to purchase, to cover for settling day next week, there is no question but that the present condition of stocks on hand and the daily average production fully justify the prices made during the past week. The stocks in foreign markets are in a depleted condition, and want of definite knowledge as to the actual state of affairs in the oil regions is largely the reason why prices on the other side of the Atlantic are lower, in proportion, than here.

Mr. W. C. Mobley, Superintendent of the Parker Branch of the Narrow Gauge, having procurred a charter for the extention of the road to Butler, has gone East to purchase material for the construction of the road. Millerstown and Butler have at last waked up to the imporiance of the extension of the road, and the citizens of those places will subscribe liberally for the bonds required for the same. Mr. Mobley is a civil engineer by profession, and a gentleman of much executive ability and energy, and will rapidly push the extension to completion. The financial condition of the road is not excelled by that of any other in the country, and its extens on to Butler and Millerstown will be of great benefit to both places.

The business prospects of this locality, in common with most others in the lower districts, are quite encouraging. One interesting feature in this connection is that every store in the First ward, the portion of the town located on the river bank, is rented.

Considerable dissatisfaction is expressed by the hotel keepers here in reference to the action of the court at Kittanning on the question of issuing licenses, which came up on Monday. It appears that Judge Boggs, it appears, is in favor of granting licenses to proper applicants, but his associate, Judge Stevenson, is opposed to granting license for a saloon at all, application. The court, in consequence, came to a dead-lock on the subject, and an order was made postponing the matter for one week. The hotel men think the Meade House is the only hotel having license, but to the credit of the other hotels, their proprietors have closed their bars and live up strictly to the letter of the law. DOT.

The *Globe-Democrat* intimates that when Mr. Thurman got through with the Atlantic and Great Western Railroad, there was nothing in it but its water tanks. This is not literally true. We have the information from good authority that the forward trucks of a freight car, thirteen brass baggage checks and a lunch-basket-lid are still belonged to the company after Thurman had finished.—*Terre Haute Express*.

RAILWAY DISCRIMINATIONS.

The Text of Mr. Hopkins' Bill.

Following is the text of the bill introduced in Congress, by Hon. James H. Hopkins, to regulate freight charges by railway and other corporations. It is said that a meeting of the Chamber of Commerce of this city will be called at an early day to consider the bill:

SECTION 1. That all railroad companies, and all other corporations or persons engaged in the business of carrying freight from any place in one State or Territory to the seaboard in said State or Territory, or from any place on the seaboard to any place within any State or Territory, of articles imported directly to such inland place of delivery, be, and they are hereby, prohibited from making discriminations in charges for handling, carrying and delivering such freights, but all such charges shall be equitable and uniform.

SEC. 2. That all railroad companies, and all other corporations or persons engaged in carrying freight against the forbidden sections of this act, shall within thirty days after the passage of this act, make and publish a schedule of charges upon such freights, and said schedule shall show the amount charged per 100 pounds per mile for carrying the same, distance of freight; and also all other charges for handling, storing, and so forth; and also whether any drawback is allowed, and the amount thereof, and the requirements to secure the same. Said schedule shall be signed by the proper officer of the corporation, or by the persons carrying freight as aforesaid, and shall be published in a newspaper of general circulation at each depot or office of said corporation or person. Said rate of charges then fixed shall not be changed oftener than once in three months, and then only after giving ten days' public notice through six newspapers published in the counties over which such carrying is done. Any corporation or individual neglecting to publish as aforesaid, and to keep such notice shall be liable to a penalty of $1,000, to be sued for and apportioned as in case of the penalty provided for in section four of this act.

SEC. 3. That all railroad companies, and other corporations and persons engaged in carrying freights as aforesaid, are hereby prohibited from charging less or more than the rates so as aforesaid prescribed, from any person or persons or corporations, under a penalty of $1,000 for each offense, to be recovered in any court of record having jurisdiction to that amount, one-half thereof for the benefit of the United States and the other half to the person suing therefor. Any arrangement or agreement, directly or indirectly, whereby the freight of any individual or association of individuals, or corporation or corporations, shall be handled, stored or carried for a rate of compensation, different from the rate so aforesaid, or different from the rate per 100 pounds per mile charged to others, shall be considered a violation of this section by the person or corporation violating to the penalty aforesaid.

SEC. 4. That all combinations of railroad companies or other corporations or individuals to establish rates of freight, to prevent the late charges upon a different basis than that herein set forth, are hereby declared to be a misdemeanor; and the conviction or person convicted thereof in any United States district court, or any corporation or person or individual has an office or place of business shall be fined a sum not less than $1,000 for each offense, and shall also be subject to the penalty prescribed in section 3 in a civil suit or suits.

A Toast.

Two Important Discoveries! The discovery of America by Columbus, and Dr. Pierce's Golden Medical Discovery the one opening up to mankind a new continent, the other a fountain of health, which is indispensable to the full enjoyment of life and its blessings. In response to the above sentiment, from the unsolicited attestations of tens of thousands of grateful patients, who have been relieved of chronic ailments through its instrumentality. Those voices are limited to one locality, but from every city, village and hamlet, in our broad domain, as well as from other climes, and in the strange accents of foreign tongues, like the confused murmur of many waters, come unfeigned and hearty commendations. It is, in combination with Dr. Pierce's Pleasant Purgative Pellets, the great depurator of the age. Under its benign action eruptions disappear, excessive waste is checked, the nerves are strengthened, and health, long banished from the system, resumes her reign and re-establishes her roseate throne upon the cheek. All who have thoroughly tested its virtues in the diseases for which it is recommended unite in pronouncing it the great Medical Discovery of the age. TH&S*.

DISASTROUS FIRE

One Fireman Killed and Another Injured.

Six Buildings and Contents Destroyed —Loss Probably $100,000—The Fort Wayne Railroad and Other Valuable Buildings in Great Danger—Successful Struggle of the Firemen.

Between 11 and o'clock Sunday night a disastrous fire occurred on Penn avenue, in the Fourth ward, which resulted in the total destruction of six buildings with their contents, and the loss of the life of one fireman and the serious injury of another. The total loss by the fire is roughly estimated at from $50,000 to $100,000, and will probably reach the latter figure.

DISCOVERY OF THE FLAMES.

About eleven o'clock a watchman at the freight depot of the Fort Wayne and Chicago Railroad, on Penn avenue, just below Eleventh street, discovered flames issuing from the lower floor of the brick building No. 339 Penn avenue, immediately opposite. The man ran to the railroad office building for the alarm station key, and No. 3, corner of Tenth street, was promptly pulled and answered from the big bell. Engine companies 1, 2 and 3, Hook and Ladder A and Hose company 1, together with Chief Engineer Evans, answered with remarkable promptitude, and the firemen went to work with all possible dispatch.

LOCATION OF THE FIRE.

Number 339, where the fire broke out, was the center of a block of five three-story brick, that stood on the south side of Penn avenue, below the railroad crossing, and between that and Tenth street. This house was occupied by Pierce, Ablett & Co., flour dealers and commission men, the Pittsburgh Forge and Iron Co., Atchel McClure & Sons, brooms and wooden ware, together with another commission firm just moved in and whose name could not be ascertained by several firms as offices. Both east and west of the block are one-story buildings, James Graham, dealer in anthracite coal, being on the east side, and W. B. Lupton & Co., roofers, on the west.

TROUBLES OF THE FLAMES.

The oil in the central building burned furiously, and while it was found impossible to save the building, a second alarm was struck, and Engine companies 4, 5 and 7 and Hook and Ladder Company C, reported. The flames shot out of the buildings both front and rear, endangering the structures on opposite sides. At the rear the fire was separated from the Patterson block, or Commercial Row, fronting on Liberty street only by a fifty foot alley, and here the greatest danger was apprehended. The flames, however, and intense and window sills of two of them, Nos. 27 and 29 Liberty street, but by the fearless and energetic work of the firemen were soon quenched. A line of hose was taken through the alley to Penn avenue and from thence there was safe opportunity for good work across the alley, the Pennsylvania Railroad and the Allegheny River to the Fort Wayne office buildings and the freight depot falling fire brands by the hose, but a copious application of water prevented it. The middle walls of the block crumbled in, sending up showers of sparks far and wide, mostly in an eastern and southern direction, and the high block of brick buildings at Eleventh and Penn, the Rush house, the elevator, and even the Union depot were covered with them. There was danger that some of these might ignite, and the force of water failed to reach the top of the high walls, and many individuals who could obtain access to the roofs, only could be depended upon to quench the sparks as they fell in the neighborhood. The eastern wall of the burning block first fell crushing in the special correspondence of the COMMERCIAL, as doing about forty-four feet.

The heat was intense, especially on Penn avenue, while dense clouds of smoke filled the air, and it was scarcely apprehended. At one time the entire block, from Tenth street to the corner of Penn avenue, and yet the firemen would not been drenched with water maintained their stand to protect the rear buildings.

FIREMEN BURIED.

After the second alarm had been struck, Mr. Lupton, who occupied the one story structure west of the burning block, succeeded in removing his books and papers and such other valuables as might be got out. Firemen who were not immediately needed at the hose aided in this work, among them Robert Miller, a fireman on the Engine Company No. 3, and Charley J. Rice, Ladderman of Hook and Ladder company "A." These two took out a desk from the west end of the building, and had just handed it safely on the opposite side of the street. They then returned to do similar work for Mr. Lupton, and in not more than two minutes after twelve o'clock that they turned to leave the building. It was well so, for as they got into the office, which was about fifty feet back, a portion of the west wall on the brick fell in upon them. The cry of danger was raised and other firemen rushed in. Rice was found only partly covered, but was dead, having received a blow on the head and face. He was aided out and escaped unhurt. Miller, however, mounted a ladder to Penn avenue and thence to the office of Dr. J. H. Mettlehand, by whom his wounds were dressed. Miller is having a severe and grievously wounded, and was able with some little assistance to walk home. Robert Miller could not be found, and hope having against hope, search was made outside for him among the falling walls, but many stout hearts and hands braved the danger within and proceeded to clear away the bricks, many tons of the debris, but no further body recovered when they heard a faint voice from the rear of the building. Later figures as they worked and before they reached the body an sound from it ceased. Some twenty minutes elapsed before Miller was discovered, and there was still hope when it was found that the body of Miller was in the immediate vicinity gathered about when he was brought out, and it was all that a dozen policemen could do to take passage through with as little delay as possible, and as tenderly as could be, the dead fireman was conveyed to the office of Dr. Dickson, and there lying before the latter, thence to Dr. W. R. Childs, on Penn avenue, where Dr. Hamilton was summoned in. A few minutes examination proved that life was entirely extinct, which naturally has to end his last stir being laid down in the office.

THE LOSS BY THE FIRE.

Before one o'clock the fire was at an end. The block of buildings first originated was totally destroyed and the row on Penn avenue well alone remained, threat-ning to fall at any moment. These buildings were owned by Messrs. Robertson & Co., and the onestory structure east of them by M. J. Wilson. The latter's contents, except the Shoenberger building was destroyed, not any dollars worth being saved. Somefourteen feet of the west wall of the Shoenberger building, and it was said that two miles were the number of bricks that fell from the wall on Liberty street, that once took fire on the cornice, were occupied by John G. Hunt, leather and oils; B. Pflaum, hides and pelt, and Stewart & Co., brushes etc. The damage to the contents of the fire was inconsiderable but some damage was done to stocks by water. Of the loss on the burned from no estimate of damage and stocks there or the amount of insurance, nothing whatever could be learned. The proprietors generally to be out of town.

ROBERT MILLER.

Robert Miller, the foreman of Engine Company No. 3 (Vigilant), Seventh avenue, who was killed, as previously reported, while in the discharge of his duty, resided at No. 6 Bluff street, Sixth ward. He entered the department in June, 1870, the time of the organization of the Fire Bureau of the Duquesne Company. For several years he was engineer of the Duquesne in the pail Department, but for some time was foreman of No. 3, as stated. Mr. Miller was much respected by his fellow-firemen for his manly qualities in his demeanor, but always reliable and attentive to duty.

The sad accident cast a gloom over the firemen, and indeed affected the thousands of citizens who stood about the scene of the fire. The most intense anxiety was manifested to hear the result of the accident, and when the sad report of death was announced, expressions of sorrow and sympathy were everywhere heard.

THE LABORS OF THE FIREMEN

were of the severest character. Not one of the fifty called out, from the chief down, but was wet through and through, while the exigencies they cheerfully encountered and the energy, pluck and perseverance displayed were universally commended. Chiefs Evans and McCutchson covered all the points and instructed and encouraged the men, all of whom showed a bravery and ability that fully maintained the credit of the department.

MONONGAHELA PRESBYTERY.

Meeting at Mansfield Yesterday—The Case of Dr. Prestley—The Request of the Newark, O., Congregation Refused —Other Proceedings.

Monongahela Presbytery of the United Presbyterian Church met at Mansfield, Pa., yesterday. Rev. J. C. Boyd was elected Moderator for the ensuing year and assumed his position of presiding officer.

INSTALLATION OF A PASTOR.

Rev. C. B. Hatch was installed pastor of the Mansfield congregation with the usual solemn ceremonies. An appropriate sermon was preached by Rev. Stewart, Rev. W. H. Knox, addressed the pastor and Rev. Boyd spoke to the people.

A call from Union congregation for Rev. H. A. Elder was sustained and forwarded to his Presbytery (Westmoreland.)

A call from St. Louis congregation for Rev. John Galley was also sustained.

DR. PRESTLEY'S CASE.

The resolution recently adopted by the First Presbyterian congregation of Newark, Ohio, was read as follows:

Resolved, That this congregation invite Dr. James Prestley to come to us, bringing his letter from the church of which he is a member, unless with the advice of the session of the elders of this church join in a letter of dismission to the Presbytery of Zanesville of the nongahela Presbytery of the United Presbyterian Church, not asking them to do the impossible thing of requiring from him such testimonials as will remove all seeming concerns, or unable to go before Zanesville Presbytery with a clear record."

A motion was made that Monongahela Presbytery refuse to grant the request of the Newark congregation.

A brief discussion took place, in which it was stated that the request was made by only a single member of Zanesville Presbytery, and was not entitled to any consideration by the Presbytery. Other reasons were stated for refusing the request.

The motion to refuse the request of the Newark congregation prevailed.

Dr. Mc Clean presented a paper to the effect that, whereas Dr. Prestley was out of the jurisdiction of Monongahela Presbytery, the Newark congregation had no right to call him in the premises as they thought proper; and should they decide to receive Dr. Prestley into their denomination as a minister this Presbytery would not consider such action discourteous.

The paper was laid on the table.

Adjourned.

ANOTHER ACCOUNT.

The above report was obtained from a member of the Presbytery who arrived in the city, from Mansfield, last evening. A special dispatch to the COMMERCIAL, dated at Mansfield last night, says:

In the matter of Dr. James Presley, the United Presbyterian Presbytery, in session here to-day, received and acted on a request from the clerk of the Zanesville Presbytery (Presbyterian church) for a transcript of the record of the case. It not appearing that the request was authorized by the Presbytery, or that it proceeded from other than the clerk himself, a motion to grant the request was negatived.

The above is the explanation given of this action of the Presbytery, but a motion to so refer upon the minutes was tabled, and the matter now rests there.

Presbytery adjourned to meet in extra session on the first Tuesday in April, when it is likely the case will be presented in proper form.

—The following is the report of the prices of leading stocks on the Philadelphia Stock Board, as received by wire at noon to-day:

Stocks.	Bid.	Asked.	Sales.
Pennsylvania Central			50%
Reading			50%
United Co's of N J	137	138	
Oil Creek	14¾	14¾	
Lehigh Valley	62		
Lehigh Valley	10¾		
Central Transportation	48¾		
C. & A. 1st Mort	84	84	
Northern Pacific bonds	17¾	18	

[By Associated Press.]

Gold Closed at 113¾.

MONEY.

NEW YORK, March 29.—Money 3@4 per cent. Prime mercantile paper 5@7 per cent. Customs receipts $380,000. Clearings $20,000,000. Sterling steady at 487@490.

GOLD.

Gold advanced from 113¾ to 113¾ and closed at 113¾.

STOCKS AND BONDS.

Government bonds a fraction lower in sympathy with gold. Railroad bonds dull and generally firm. State securities quiet. Stocks opened steady, except for St. Paul shares, which were exceptionally weak and declined fractions below yesterday's prices. Lake Shore strong. After first call a buying movement set in and under the leadership of Lake Shore, which advanced to 61, the general market became active and lapsed into dull stocks nearly recovering from the early decline. Toward noon there was a general decline in the whole list and the tone was very heavy. Missouri Pacific was exceptionally strong. Market closed dull but firm. Transactions 142,000 shares, of which 8,000 were Pacific Mail, 5,600 Western Union, 1,000 Northwestern, 11,200 Paul, 2,000 Erie, 4,000 Lake Shore, 5,000 Missouri Pacific and 6,600 Michigan Central. The following were the closing quotations:

W. U. Telegraph	67¾	Toledo & Wabash	8¾
Pacific Mail	21	Do. preferred	9
Adams Express	107¾	Ft. Wayne	97
Wells-Fargo Ex	86¾	Terre Haute	5
American Ex	62	Do. preferred	17
U. S. Express	50	Chicago & Alton	76¾
New York Central	113¾	Do. preferred	110¾
Erie	19¾	Ohio & Mississippi	19¾
Do. preferred	36	Indiana Central	47
Harlem	139¾	Burling'n & Quincy	118
Do. preferred	138	Hannibal & St. Jos	17¾
Mich. Central	62¾	Do. preferred	34
Lake Shore	61¾	Del. & Lack	109¾
Illinois Central	100	Morris & Essex	75
Cleve. & Pitts	96	Central Pac. bonds	107¾
North'western	41¾	Union Pac. bonds	105¾
Do. preferred	62¾	Do. land grants	93¾
N. J. Central	104¾	Maripposa	8
Rock Island	110¾	Do. preferred	18¾
St. Paul	42	Panama	139
Do. preferred	68	Missouri Pacific	14¾

GOVERNMENTS.

U. S. coupons, 1881	122¾
5-20's, 1865	118¾
5-20's, 1865, new	118¾
5-20's, 1867	121¾
5-20's, 1868	122¾
10-40's	113¾
Currency 6's	127¾
Western Union Tel	87¾
Quicksilver	21
Do. preferred	65
Adams Express	108
American Express	63
United States Express	50
Fire	19¾
Chicago & Rock Island	109¾
Michigan Southern	90¾
Illinois Central	99¾
Cleveland & Pittsburgh	96¾
Chicago & Northwest	41¾
Do. preferred	62¾
Rock Island	110¾
Pittsburgh	97¾
Do. preferred	97¾
Ohio & Mississippi	19¾
Union Pacific	8¾
Harlem	139
Hannibal & St. Joe	17
Do. preferred	34
C., C. & I. C	15
Missouri Pacific	14¾
South Carolinas, April	68
Do. July	68
Do. 1868	68

FINANCE AND TRADE.

WEDNESDAY EVENING, March 29, 1876.

The loan market continued to show its former condition of ease to-day, and rates for discount were at their previous low range. On collaterals, such as the stock of good national banks, money could be obtained by first-class borrowers at six per cent. Mercantile paper of the best class ruled at 7@9 per cent. at the banks; 8@10 per cent. on the street. The commercial situation generally, for the past two or three weeks, has been kept quiet by the backwardness of the season and other retarding influences, the results of which are seen in the present plethoric condition of the banks. We have no especial news in local stocks. We hear of sales of Cambria Iron Company's stock at 16½; Pennsylvania Railroad consolidated mortgage sixes at 99¾; do general mortgage sixes, coupons, at 105. The Philadelphia *Press* announces that the interest coupons of the Oil Creek Railroad Company's first mortgage bonds, due on the 1st prox., will be paid at the Manufacturers' National Bank of that city on and after the date of maturity.

—The silver resumption scheme which proposes to substitute a less valuable and convenient currency for our present practical paper currency, is still the subject of very sharp criticism by some of the leading financial journals of the East. The idea of displacing the only portion of the Government currency which is not in suspension, at an expense of some $50,000,000, merits pretty severe criticism, especially as the new currency would be about the most uncertain and inconvenient that could be obtained. If the silver coin proves more valuable than paper currency, it will quickly pass out of circulation, driving the country back to the issue of shinplasters, postage stamps and car tickets. If the contrary be the case, as the New York *Bulletin* very aptly puts it, "silver coins do not circulate at a premium while paper is at par." The intrinsic value, but in spite of it, what is the use of the Government spending $40,000,000, with loss of interest, to put them in the place of currency that costs nothing but the expense of printing it? If the friends of silver bullion contributes no more to the currency value of silver coin than blank paper does to the value of fractional currency, why is not stamped paper just as good as stamped silver for the purposes of small change?" There might be some practical reason in the idea of adopting the silver dollar as a standard of values in place of the gold dollar, but the scheme in its present shape has very little to recommend it.

—Eastern banks are reducing the rates paid to depositors on balances. In Boston some of the leading banks have reduced the rate on balances to 2½ per cent.; and in New York a reduction has been made by certain banks to 2 per cent. In both cities, it is generally true that the better the bank the lower is the rate of interest paid—that is, if any is allowed. It is also the case that rates of discount are easing very materially. The Boston *Journal of Commerce* says:

There has never yet been a time when the money market was more completely at rest, and we hear of paper discounted this week at 3½ per cent. per annum, a point rarely reached this year. Indeed, it is not easy to see how, while there is a superabundant supply of capital for short-time loans, the rate can be much if any advanced at 4@4½ per cent., and from thence up to 7 per cent., which seems to be the highest point that the trade can be expected while the wintry weather continues, as the backwardness of the season and the condition of the roads in country districts combine against the progress of the spring trade. Next month when spring weather has set in, and the marketing of produce and purchase of supplies, is possible to farming communities, more active business may be expected, although it is not best to be too sanguine as to the volume of business this spring.

The active lines of trade to-day were groceries and provisions, in both of which departments an good trade was reported by leading houses. Values in the latter line follows: Green hides quiet at 5½@6c ₱ pound; short rib sides 13¾@13¾c; clear sides 13¾c.

CUT AND CURED MEATS—Hams were steady and in fair demand at 11½c ₱ lb for extra sugar cured, 11c for canvased, and 10½c for plain. Shoulders were being quotable at 10½@10c. Dried beef, nominal at 12½c. Bacon 12½c. Boat longues, 9c per dozen, are quoted at $6 50.

LARD—Lard market is strong with a marked upward tendency. We quote prime leaf lard in tierces at 11½@11¾c ₱ lb in half-barrels 11¾@12c; in kegs, the latter for choice. Refined lard 12c.

OIL CITY, March 29.—The *Derrick* says: United at the opening was sold in a moderate way at 102½ and 102¾ and for sales were made privately at $2 11½. The feeling gradually weakened and the amount of business transacted at $2 03¾ was quite extensive. From noon till two and three this afternoon hardly anything was done, bids generally being $2 06¾@2 07½. There were sales at the two latter, but none were made openly at the former price. At three o'clock in the afternoon the feeling strengthened quite rapidly and the market soon advanced to $2 10, at which considerable changed hands. During the closing hour of business a few lots sold at $2 11¾ for certificates dated to-morrow. At the close $2 10¾ was bid for new and the same asked for $2 11¼. The total sales for the day were 98,000 barrels.

NEW YORK, March 29.—The *Herald* says: A powerful effort was made to break the crude market of the region yesterday. United opened on advanced to $2 10¾, and sold down in bulk to quoted at 8½@9c and thirty-six hundred barrels in Philadelphia at 10½c; and $2 12 the closing at the inside figure. Refined in bulk is quoted at 8½@9c and thirty-six hundred barrels in Philadelphia at 10½c; and $2 12 the closing at the inside figure. Refined in bulk is quoted at 8½@9c and 7 50. Naphtha 6½@7c. Benzine 9@9½c. Crude certificates $2 09¾ bid, $2 10¼ asked; United $2 05@2 07¾. The whole day has been characterized by dullness. There was little or no change in prices in the morning. In the afternoon, a decline took place under the hammering process, of 2½@3 all around, but steadiness refused to yield beyond this, and exhibited for the remainder of the day an undertone of strength. The market prices was freely bid during the afternoon for sellers options for April in large blocks, but without sellers. The closing prices for spot were as follows: United and Conduit $2 03¾ bid; Union $2 06¾ bid. Shipment was held at $2 20 with but few offers.

REFINED—The market for refined was rather destitute of features of interest, the feeling being dull and spiritless. Values for crude oil were easy but tolerably well maintained. While there was a nominal advance in Eastern deliveries, which closed somewhat easier. We quote standard white on cars at 11½c and Conduit one hundred and thousand barrel lots, free on board at works, 12@12½c in car lots. New York delivery rates at 14½@14¾c for prompt and the month. Philadelphia is quoted at 12½c for cargo lots and March delivery, na

Weekly Commercial.

SATURDAY, APRIL 1, 1876.

THE new Secretary of War has very properly directed that in order to secure the position of post-trader the applicant must be recommended by the council of administration at the post. The council of administration is a majority of the officers at the post, and the field of peculation is thus transferred from Washington.

THERE has been a general impression that a single creditor could force a corporation into bankruptcy. This appears to have been erroneous, a decision by the United States Circuit Court of Illinois having just been rendered to the effect that the same number of petitioners must join in the case of a corporation as in the case of a natural person.

SENATOR BOOT, of Missouri, is now charged with corruption in having bought his way into the Senate. The report is that he paid $500 apiece for some sixty Democratic members of the Missouri Legislature, and if the report is true, the "pawks" displayed great skill in making their candidate disgorge. BOOT, it is understood, was very indignant at the corruptions practiced by BELKNAP.

THE Republican delegation from New York to the National Convention is in the interest of Senator CONKLING, and was directed to vote for him with a full reference to the ultimate use that may be made of its vote in determining the nomination for President. If he can control it, as now seems probable, nothing is surer than that the vote of that State will never be given either to BLAINE or BRISTOW.

THE Washington *Republican*, hither o opposed to the grant of Congressional aid to the Texas Pacific Railroad, now favors it. The reason given is a good one, viz: That it is impossible to build a road to the Pacific without Government help. Private enterprise is not equal to the task, and is never likely to be; and we are never to have an unobstructed road to the Pacific, the Government must aid in building it.

THE Chicago *Tribune* says that "the checkiest thing that has occurred since the first of January, 1876, was the vote of the Hon. (?) SCHUMACKER, Democratic M. C., for the impeachment of BELKNAP. He had $300,000 of Pacific Mail corruption fund in his pocket at the time. His party conferees have not troubled him about it. There is no resolution pending for his expulsion or impeachment. Why is this thus?"

THE hog cholera is becoming a matter of serious concern out West, the terrible ravages of the disease rendering it a subject of grave consideration alike for producer and consumer. The Illinois State Board of Agriculture has just taken steps to gather all the information possible as to the nature and causes of the disease and the various methods of treating it, for the information of breeders and others who are experimenting in the hope of finding a remedy for the malady, or a preventive.

IN Judge BLAIR'S letter in favor of TILDEN for President he says: "My preference for TILDEN is only because his nomination would of itself force on the issue of reform, which is our country's only pending canvass." This is exceedingly rich, TILDEN being now under charges, made on oath in a court of law, that he formed one of a party to a conspiracy by which the St. Louis, Alton and Terre Haute Railroad Company were swindled out of about a million and a half of dollars.

THE Republican members of CLYMER'S committee are of opinion that there is a good deal more in that PENDLETON railway claim business than has yet come to the surface, and they propose to recall some of the witnesses. When General KIDDOO and Mrs. MARSH were examined, the subject was very delicately handled by the investigators, and neither witness was closely pressed with questions. Should they be recalled, it is thought that one, if not both, can be induced to unfold a very interesting tale about the matter.

PARSON BROWNLOW may be grim, but he has sound ideas. He says, in a late issue of his paper, the Knoxville *Chronicle*:

"A Democratic victory in November means the overthrow of the Bourbon men at the South as Ben. Hill, Toombs, Isham G. Harris, Tucker, and other extremists, and of such Northern Copperheads as Fernando Wood, Hendricks, Tilden, Eaton, of Connecticut, and others of similar political interests. With such a revolutionary, reactionary element at the head of National affairs, assisted by the corrupt, incompetent and reckless men who control our Southern State governments, what have we to hope for?"

THE New Hampshire Democratic State Committee have issued an address to inform the faithful that corruption did it—in other words, that the incorruptible Democracy sold themselves. The charge, however, is unquestionably false. The majority of the people of New Hampshire are poor and their labor meagerly rewarded, but they are not destitute of intelligence and honesty, and, for the great majority, the man who should approach them to buy their votes would attain only their everlasting scorn.

THE Democratic investigators at Washington are having very poor luck. The sub-Committee of the Judiciary, to whom was referred the charges against Hon. CHARLES HAYS, of Alabama, of selling a cadetship to West Point, have concluded their investigations and find nothing in the testimony to show that Mr. HAYS received a penny to make the appointment. The report of the committee will exonerate Mr. HAYS from all responsibility. The same sub-committee can now turn its attention to the charge against ex-member COFFROTH, and also the very low price paid for the vote of ROBBINS, of North Carolina, when a member of the Senate of that State.

THE Democratic candidates for President are falling fast. The last to drop out of recognition is THURMAN, of Ohio. He is charged with gobbling up a fee of $50,000 out of the assets of the Atlantic and Great Western Railroad, and the query is what he did for it. The Atlantic and Great Western was notorious for the skillful way in which it was managed for fleecing the stockholders, and THURMAN seems to have come in, at the right moment, for his share of the plunder. PENDLETON, HENDRICKS, THURMAN, TILDEN—who will complete the tally of candidates for the Presidency wrecked upon the railroad?

THE Democrats in Congress are looking forward to the Connecticut election next Monday longingly and hopefully. New Hampshire was a stunning surprise to them after the BELKNAP business, and ever since they have gone about as in a dream. It is not probable that our friends will elect the State ticket, but if the Legislature is Republican, so that a Republican Senator can be chosen to fill the vacancy caused by Mr. FERRY'S death, and the huge Democratic majority of last year is reduced, it will be almost as good a victory as that of New Hampshire.

THE Washington *Star* states that the recent examination of Mr. PENDLETON by the Judiciary Committee of the House, places him in a position even worse than that in which he was exposed by his testimony before Mr. CLYMER'S committee. It appears that at the time he pushed the Kentucky railroad claim through the War Department the title of the corporation which he represented to the road was disputed, and was at that time pending in the Kentucky courts, but this fact was concealed by PENDLETON. Furthermore this, the case was subsequently decided adversely to PENDLETON'S corporation. A rehearing was granted on some technicality, and the controversy was finally compromised. These facts throw some light on the remark of Senator STEVENSON, that the stockholders regarded what they got under the claim as so much money made,

THERE will soon be a famine in fractional currency. The total amount in the Treasury is only about $1,500,000, and the supply is decreasing at the rate of $100,000 daily. Treasurer NEW states that when the amount is reduced to $1,000,000 he will fill no more orders, and will stop entirely the issue of the currency, except in the business transactions of the Government itself. Some $250,000 in fifty cent notes will be held in reserve for the use of the Finance Committee of the Centennial Exposition in making change for entrance fees. The $1,000,000 limit will be reached in about a week. Meanwhile the House delays action on the silver bill, and the Washington correspondent of the New York *Journal of Commerce* says that the impression is becoming more and more general that the cause of this delay is a desire on the part of the Democrats to have the Secretary forced by circumstances to issue the silver coin on his own responsibility and that of the Republican party without waiting for authorization by Congress. This is Democratic statesmanship.

MORALITY IN POLITICS.

It is a singular fact that Mr. PENDLETON made no concealment of his acts in prosecuting a doubtful claim upon the Government, and in taking the larger part of the amount received as his fee. He thought that was all right, and was in no wise ashamed of it. He sought and demanded an investigation from the Congressional Committee on Expenditures in the War Department, in order, as he said, that he might repel the "infamous slanders" upon him by newspaper correspondents at Washington City; but these "infamous slanders" did not consist, in his judgment, of the allegations concerning the big fee he pocketed for securing the payment of a thrice rejected claim, but in the assertion that he had traveled through Europe with Mrs. MARSH and Mrs. BELKNAP. *That* was what he wanted to deny, and it was to get in that denial, officially, that he demanded an investigation. He did not consider it a slander to say that he took $80,000 for himself out of the $148,000 he collected for the railroad company of which he was President. He admitted that fact frankly, without any indication of shame, and without any apparent consciousness of the infamy of the act; but he did consider it infamous to allege that he had traveled in Europe with the women we have named. He wanted to free himself from *that* imputation and that alone.

It never seemed to have struck Mr. PENDLETON that there was any harm or wrong in using his influence to defraud the Government, or in defrauding the company whose officer he was by exacting an outrageous fee for his services. This double fraud did not offend his sense of honor, nor did he appear to comprehend that it subjected him to infamy and reproach. The allegation that he traveled with Mrs. MARSH wounded him to the quick, and drove him to courting an investigation as his only means of vindicating his social standing; but the much greater offense of swindling the Government and the corporation of which he was the head was regarded by him as a regular and legitimate transaction.

That a man with the political, personal and social standing of Mr. PENDLETON should take this distorted view of such matters is astounding, and the instance illustrates the demoralization prevalent among a large class of public men. We are not citing the case for political effect, but simply to call attention to the low moral tone which renders such a thing possible. It is not confined to any one political party, nor to any one person. BELKNAP was as bad as PENDLETON, and both are but specimens of a class which thinks it all right to rob the Government whenever possible, to defraud a corporation when the opportunity offers, or to bribe any public officer who has an itching palm for gold. Neither MARSH, nor PENDLETON, nor BELKNAP would pick a man's pocket; but all of them, and all with them of the same school of thought, think it no harm to pick the Government's pocket, or to give or take a bribe. It is lamentable that such is the fact; but the fact itself is beyond question. Both MARSH and BELKNAP thought it was perfectly proper to give and take bribes, but both were ashamed to have the bribery made public, while PENDLETON was lost to all sense of shame concerning *his* transaction, and testified to the details with a childlike insensibility to the knowledge that he was thereby criminating himself and calling down public indignation upon his own head.

It is something to know that the revelation thus made *did* excite public indignation, and that, if public men can be so shameless, the great mass of the community have not become morally debauched. Mr. PENDLETON may think such things all right; but the public heart and conscience are shocked by them to an extent which proved that the PENDLETON fiasco has not spread beyond a certain class of public men who have altogether eliminated from their public life their convictions of moral responsibility.

The remedy for all this is to seek men with consciences, and with a high sense of morals, for public places. There is no scarcity of such men; let us be duly thankful for that; and when those who possess the easy virtue of BELKNAP or PENDLETON learn that the people will no longer trust moral bankrupts, they will drop out of public life and cease to clamor for political recognition. Political parties, too, will rapidly learn the same lesson; and corruption in high places will cease when be people carry their morals into their politics, and brand with their fiery indignation every man tainted with moral leprosy who offers himself for their suffrages.

THE Philadelphia *North American* enumerates, as evidences of the growth of American industry and of an increase in the foreign demand for goods of American fabrication, the recent shipment of a cargo of locomotives and other machinery from Philadelphia to Rio Janeiro; the additional shipment of another cargo of the same nature to Santos; the shipment of evaporators and sugar machinery for the West Indies; the increasing shipments of cotton cloths for various European from various American ports; the shipments of gas-fixtures and sewing machines and arms of all kinds for all countries, according to their several tastes for war or peace; and finally the introduction of American arms into Egypt by American officers serving there, and agricultural implements and books by American Commissioners of Education to Japan, and American railway material by our countrymen in India. All these instances are good omens of a reviving industry, but just as we are getting such splendid encouragements from abroad, the Democratic House of Representatives at Washington steps in with an effort to crush out our manufacturing industry with a free trade tariff, framed expressly to encourage foreign industry, at the expense of our own. The Democratic party seems determined that prosperity shall not return, if it can help it; and if the present encouraging aspects of increased trade are blasted, the suffering country can blame the disaster upon those who, at this critical turning-point in the career of trade, put forth their hands to crush the hopes of the country.

This same thing has happened several times before. In 1842, Congress was impelled to an effort to extricate the business of the country from the bad effects of the revulsion of 1837, and it accomplished its purpose by enacting the tariff of 1842. Under that tariff the country recovered almost immediately from its prostration. Industry revived; trade flourished; wages increased; property advanced; and in all directions the proofs were shown that we were again upon the high road to national affluence. In the meantime the Democrats had triumphed in the elections of 1844; and in 1846 a Democratic Congress displaced the protective tariff of 1842 with the free trade tariff of 1846. The effect was as immediate as instantaneous check to the improved and improving industry of the nation; enterprise was repressed; capital was discouraged; and the onward career of our commerce was hindered and restrained.

The only way to prevent such periodical recurrences of Democratic stupidity is to keep that party out of power, and deprive it of the means of mischief. If industry and commerce are ever to revive and resume their prosperity, the only influence hostile to them must be removed and kept out of power.

THE provisions of Senator MORTON'S bill for counting the Presidential electoral vote, which has just passed the Senate by an almost strictly party vote, are, briefly, that the two Houses of Congress shall assemble in the Hall of Representatives on the last Wednesday of January following the Presidential election, the President of the Senate presiding. Two tellers on behalf of the House and two from the Senate are to be appointed to count the certificates of the electoral votes, which must be opened by the President of the Senate. If upon the reading of any certificate, a question arises, the Senate is to withdraw and the question must be submitted to that body for its decision, and the Speaker of the House is also to submit the question to the House for its decision. No electorial vote from any State to the counting of which objection is made is to be rejected except by an affirmative vote of the two Houses. When these have voted they will reassemble, and the presiding officer will announce the decision of the question. If more than one return is received from a State purporting to be the certificates of electorial votes, the returns are to be opened in the presence of both Houses, and that return from such State shall be counted which the two Houses acting separately shall decide to be the true return. When the two Houses separately decide upon an objection that may have been made to the counting of any electoral vote from any State, each Senator and Representative may speak to such objections or question, ten minutes and not oftener than once, provided that after the debate has lasted two hours it shall be the duty of each House to put the main question without further debate. There is at present no law to provide for the case of a disagreement, and the objection to this measure appears to be that just where it encounters the difficult points in the subject, it also fails, in that it leaves the decision on contesting returns to what may be called a chance vote. The matter seems to be a defect in the Constitution, which a constitutional amendment alone can properly remedy. The measure is better than nothing, but it is not likely to pass the Democratic House.

THE Democratic platform of the Lancaster Convention is a medley of bosh, blather and bathos. On the currency question it blows both hot and cold, denouncing resumption in one resolution and approving it in another; and the general tenor of the whole batch of resolves is that of political insincerity. On the school question, it is in favor of the constitutional provision which prohibits legislative grants to sectarian schools, and opposed to any union of Church and State; but as this is ground common to all, it is a mere evasion of the real question at issue. The enemies of our present school system do not ask for legislative grants to sectarian schools, but for such a *pro rata* division of the school fund as will enable them to maintain separate schools under their control. The Democratic platform does not meet *this* issue, nor does it meet any other live issue before the people. It indulges in generalities and clap-trap which have a ringing sound but in reality mean nothing; and the only practical purpose apparent in it is its clear intent to gloss over public questions on which the members of the party differ, and to keep its factions together by deceptive declarations containing much more sound than sense.

The folly of trusting to such a party is demonstrated by its inability to agree fully upon any question that does not involve the spoils of office. It has no distinctive principles, no settled policy. A mere party of negations, and held together only by the cohesive power of public plunder it presents no solid foundation for confidence in it, and no point of certainty upon which the solid men of the country can hang a hope. It is torn and rent by struggling factions, which coalesce for the moment under the inspiration of the hope of success in the Presidential election, and being governed throughout by the very worst elements of the voting population, it is unable to offer a single inducement to public trust or respect.

THERE has been a great deal of bluster on the part of some of the hard-money organs East, over what is called the hearty ring of the Pennsylvania Democratic resolutions on the currency question; but the better class of journals are beginning to get a clearer view of their purport. The New York *Times* says:

Governor Tilden's metropolitan organ presumes a good deal upon the credulity of its readers when it attempts to persuade "no doubtful sound about" the financial resolves of the Pennsylvania Democratic Convention. "The Sherman sham," says the vivacious organ, "is denounced and its repeal demanded," and to this extent it speaks the truth. When, however, it goes on to say that the purpose of the convention in manufacturing resolves was under that a practical measure, which will perform more effectually, if it promises less loudly, may be substituted" for the existing law, it *would* insult the common sense of those who look to it for information. The convention had quite a different object in view. It had to harmonize conflicting interests, and to keep up an appearance of unity among factions that are essentially antagonistic. Hard-money men and repudiators were therefore very ever counsel together, and the point aimed at was the construction of a platform which, while keeping up a semblance of sincerity on the part of the former, should not do violence to the principles of the latter. The sixth resolution is the result of this extraordinary combination. It declares that "gold and silver are the only proper basis for the currency of a Republic," which is a concession to the Democrats of the Jackson and Benton school. But it mystifies the succeeding call for "steps for the resumption of specie payments" by insisting that the result must be reached "without destroying the business interests of the people"—a qualification so vague and so sweeping that it might have been dictated by Mr. Pendleton before that personage passed out of political existence. The real issue, as every body with half an eye must see, is left untouched. The hard-money man heats his conscience with words which—interpreted in the light of the caucus at Washington—are full of meaning, and the anti-resumptionist chuckles over the enforcement of a condition which, according to his idea of things, is impossible of fulfilment.

THE Legislature, it is now certain, will not adjourn until after May first. It has been in session nearly three months, and in all that time but five or six bills have become laws. The House of Representatives has now over three hundred bills on the calendar, and is acting on them at the slow rate of one or two a week. The Senate, on the contrary, has disposed of nearly all the bills before it, and could be ready to adjourn in two weeks if the House did not prevent it. The responsibility, therefore, must rest with the Democratic House; and the blame of the additional cost of several hundred thousand dollars, caused by this delay, through the blundering ignorance and incapacity of the Democratic House, must rest upon the shoulders of the Democratic party.

Another fact is now made manifest by his course of the Democratic House, viz.: that the new Constitution has not cut off the mania for special legislation. The House calendar shows that over 600 bills have so far been introduced into that body, the most of which are special acts, either openly or in disguise. Many of them are general acts on their face, but are intended to meet particular cases only, and many others are special acts in name as well as in fact. Scarcely any of them deserve to be thought important; and, if the appropriation bills were passed, there would be no need to waste any time in the consideration of these unnecessary bills. It is a sad reflection to think that the State is to be compelled to pay $500,000 as the cost of enacting a lot of bills of no public importance or value; and it is still more sad to know that all that is likely to be done would have been done at a cost of $300,000, if the Democratic House had not frittered away its opportunities. The people of the State may have thought, at the time, that they were doing a wise thing in putting these incompetents in power; but the terrible pecuniary cost of the experiment may teach them the folly of repeating it, and if so, the money will not be altogether misspent.

COLONEL DODGE'S recent pamphlet descriptive of the character and resources of the Black Hills ought to be carefully read by all intending immigrants to that region. The physical features of the country, its soil, timber, climate, water, etc., are well portrayed, and there is also much information respecting the precious metals supposed to exist there. That there is gold in the Hills the author does not doubt, but the quantity is yet a question. Col. DODGE thinks it is no place for poor men, the mining being of such a nature as to require considerable capital to carry it on profitably. He says:

"It has passed into a proverb that 'placer' mining is the poor man's diggings, while 'quartz' mining is only for the rich. Placer mining in the Black Hills is not the poor man's diggings, unless he be a 'heathen Chinee.' He may make a little money by securing a claim, selling it out to a man or company who has capital to buy up many claims, then proceed to locate and sell another claim with the same intention and result. This is a poor and precarious foundation on which to base a living. No man can make more than the barest wages following pan-working a single claim in the Black Hills. The 'placer' mines, as well as the quartz mines, are here only for the rich man, and I would advise no poor man to go into the hills with the expectation of making money by mining for himself. Of course he may be fortunate enough to strike rich leadings and do well, but, as a general rule, he will make more money as day laborer for some wealthy man or company than he possibly can by working for himself on a single claim. The reports of the enormous wealth of the placer mines in the Black Hills are the most barefaced fabrications, got up by miners who wish to sell their claims. Money is to be made here by men who have sufficient capital to buy up many claims along a creek, sufficient to warrant the expense of dams, ditches and all works necessary for hydraulic mining. If they have already the means of comfortable livelihood, poor men had better stay at home, unless prepared to work on wages. All this is said on the supposition that the Black Hills will, sooner or later, be opened to the miner. Under present circumstances, in addition to the disadvantages mentioned, he is liable at any moment to be arrested and sent from the Hills a prisoner.

THE great problem for our manufacturing interests is how to reduce the cost of production to the lowest possible point in other ways than by cutting down the wages of operatives. With the markets for their goods leaving them the barest margin of profits, manufacturers are quick to take advantage of every new improvement in machinery or processes, inventive skill being thus stimulated to a greater degree than ever. The Boston *Commercial Bulletin* directs attention to a new invention of unusual importance, especially to cotton manufacturers. It is a "governor" which, it is claimed, enables the machinery to be run steadily at a speed so considerably increased as to give a net increase in production of from six to ten per cent. The improvement is described as being simple in construction, not liable to get out of repair, neat in appearance, noiseless, very powerful, very sensitive, and inexpensive. The unnecessary wear and breakage of machinery and consequent stoppage for repairs, the temporary delays for mending broken threads, and the value of various fabrics injured or spoiled, are all large items in the expense of running a mill, a great part of which is the result of varying speed, while the increase in quantity and improved quality of the products of cotton, woolen, iron, flour and other mills running at a maximum and even celerity, will give a considerable profit over what can be produced by the same factories running with varying speed.

THE Democratic majority in the House have been trying to cheat the country into the belief that they are in favor of reform and economy, but in point of fact they are only in favor of crippling a Republican Administration and obtaining the reputation of an economical party. One illustration of the results of their iniquitous hypocrisy in this regard is furnished by the Washington *Republican*, which prints three columns of heart-rending letters from employees of the Bureau of Engraving and Printing, at present out of employment because of the deficiency in the appropriation. These letters, which are from widows of officers and soldiers who died in the late war, young girls who are the only support of their widowed mothers and several brothers or sisters, and many who have become reduced in circumstances and were obliged to procure a position in that Bureau, reveal a deplorable state of misery. It is also reported that one of the discharged lady clerks died of starvation a few days ago, having no means of procuring food. There were between twelve and three hundred of these ladies discharged, a large number of whom are in the direst want and some on the verge of actual starvation. This is Democratic "economy" and humanity.

THE last *Financial Chronicle* has a thoughtful article upon the quantity of capital in the banks and elsewhere, and upon the general economy of the people. We quote:

"A merchant or tradesman, who used to work with $10,000 balance in bank, is anxious to double it, and does not feel safe to run risks formerly accepted. To increase his reserve he saves on his outlay and cuts down his expenses. In almost every house in the land the new spirit of frugality is contracting outlay below income, and increasing cash reserves. The plain result of such a policy on people tends to diminish consumption, speedily of luxuries. If $10 a head were the limit of this new movement, there would be a saving in the consumption of 400 millions of consumption, with all the traffic which these 400 millions would create as they pass, through various channels, from producer to the ultimate consumer. Upon whom this loss of business would fall it is difficult for us to discover, at least in all its ramifications. But the loss must be enormous, and it appears in every early in the great distributing centers. The chief ports, such as New York, suffer more or less heavily in proportion as the wine glass is reduced consumption. Our Western cities suffer much less than those of the Atlantic seaboard; and the earnings of our railroads, with other various influences, tend to suggest reasons for a gradual reaction from existing depression. On the whole, we conclude that these monetary movements have their conservative and encouraging aspects."

UNTIL lately it has been the general opinion that there would be a close vote at the fall election, with a pretty fair chance of running in the Democratic Presidential candidate. The result of the New Hampshire election, however, the stern course of the Government in the BELKNAP affair, and the pitiful failure of the Democrats in the attack on the President and his Cabinet, have cleared the air wonderfully. The present Congress is certainly not worth a cent, while the Democratic politicians are in a state of utter disgust. The investigation business has upset some of their very best men and has practically got to be stopped. Then, too, as a campaign measure, the future effect of the PAYNE bill upon the temper of the nation at large looks worse every time it is brought up. It has put the Democratic party in a plight more defenseless than before, and in the coming contest will cripple them terribly. This is the general opinion among business men everywhere. All that the Republicans have to do is to take the "whip handle" so stupidly offered them by the Democratic House, select good candidates, and carry the country by a vast majority.

THE New York *Graphic* of Wednesday has a letter from a Baltimore correspondent, in which it is stated that the real name of the dynamite fiend, THOMASSEN, was ALEXANDER A. KEITH; that he was the son of a brewer at Halifax, N. S.; that his infernal machine was a rebel invention, and was used to destroy Federal vessels during the war; that KEITH was among the assassins of President LINCOLN; that it was he who introduced BOOTH to the SURRATTS, HEROLDS, ATZEROTTS and others in Lower Maryland, who took part in the murder of Mr. LINCOLN. All these things, the writer says, are susceptible of proof, and continues:

"The same man, Keith, was privy to the attempt of Dr. Blackburn to import pestilence into the United States and barbered the poor instrument who carried the infected clothing to Washington city, one parcel of which he was to send to President Lincoln in August, 1864—eight months before the President's assassination. The object of relating this story will be to disabuse the world's idea that the dynamite fiend was an American production. He is to be scored up to the long account of monsters produced in the imperial schemes of creating a slave republic, an experiment abetted by England, whose colonial subject he was."

THE Contingent Fund of the House, under Democratic mismanagement at Washington, has already been exhausted, and there is a deficiency of $90,000, for which no provision has been made, and the investigations cannot go on much longer without money. The Appropriation Committee pretends to be very anxious to retrench, yet permits the House to throw away hundreds of thousands in an extravagance never heretofore equaled. Mr. RANDALL announced, early in the session, and with a great flourish of trumpets, that there would be no deficiencies this year; yet here, right under his nose in the House, is a deficiency that has but just begun. Instead of waging a war of reduction upon the salaries of clerks and fellowances of cadets, let him address himself to the task of stopping the wasteful leak which has been going on in the expenditures of the House. That body cannot be allowed to preach economy to others while engaged in wild extravagance on its own account.

ACCORDING to the last annual report of the Police Justices of New York just published, almost one-half the total number of cases disposed of in the courts of that city last year were cases of intoxication, and it is estimated that these and other cases which are directly or indirectly due to the use of intoxicating liquors constitute from seventy-five to ninety per cent. of all the business of the police courts. This, the justices remark, is a striking exhibit, and calls for strenuous endeavors to eradicate, as far as possible, the influences which engender such pernicious results. The existing laws relating to the subject are inadequate to the proper protection of society. Instances have occurred of persons having been committed to prison for this offense over one hundred times, and yet in such aggravated cases there can be no greater penalty imposed than in the case of a first arrest. Habitual drunkards require a long term of confinement. One advantage would be enforced abstinence; and then the time and skill of the offender might also be utilized.

THE defalcation of ex-judge BARRETT, of New York, and his flight to Europe to save himself from insanity, according to his own account, is another evidence that all corruption is not confined to office-holders and politicians. The ex-judge was confided in by a great many people, who regarded him as a man of integrity and above suspicion; and trust-funds to the extent of $200,000 were left in his hands, so great was the confidence placed in him. Yet he has squandered the trust funds, if all reports be true, and has nothing left to show for it. He is also reported to have committed forgeries to the extent of $200,000. The latter report is most likely false; but it seems to be conceded that the money in his hands belonging to several large estates has vanished from sight, having been invested in Pacific Mail and South Carolina land speculations.

AN IOWA paper names as a candidate for the Presidency, General A. C. DODGE, of that State, with the usual formula about "her favorite son," etc. It is narrated that when he sailed for Europe he entered his name on the register of the vessel thus: "AUGUSTUS CÆSAR DODGE, formerly United States Senator from Iowa; at present Minister to Spain,"—showing a commendable disposition to be accurate in establishing his identity.

THE National Convention of the Sovereigns of Industry, which was in session at Cleveland, Ohio, last week, hit the nail on the head when it declared that "next to ignorance the two great evils of the laboring classes are the credit system and the drinking usages of society."

THE exports from Philadelphia, last week, amounted to $743,315.

Remarkable Swimming Feat.

A writer in the *Nautical Gazette* says: The recent swimming feats which have attracted so much attention in Europe and in America have caused the publication of many facts and incidents connected with the subject of man's capacities in the water. The general fact which seems to be established is, that by training and practice men may be enable to find themselves almost as much at home in the water as on the land. Among the facts which have been stated, we notice that, in the German naval service, candidates for the engineer corps are required to swim, clothed and accoutered, nearly a mile before they are passed as competent, and this is certainly a very wise provision. Among the incidents recalled is the adventure of a Yarmouth (England) boatman, in October, 1835. With nine other persons, he was carousing in a yawl, by a sudden storm, six miles from shore. The accident took place in the evening, between five and six o'clock, and one man only, SAMUEL BROWN, escaped. He, happily, secured a horse pailor stuffed with straw, which had been used as a "fender." His first effort was to swim out of the reach of his drowning companions, to none of whom it was possible that he could render any assistance. With the aid of the collar he got off his shoes, his neckcloth, and his wide and heavy trousers, and then discarded the horse-collar, which, though it aided him by its buoyancy, impeded his swimming. He saw the last of his companions sink, and his only hope was to reach the land, six miles distant, by swimming. It was a moonlight evening, but the sky became overcast by clouds, and he could no longer shape his course. To add to the horror of the night, a fearful thunder-storm burst over him. This raged away at length, and the light of the moon befriended him. He could shape his course by the light houses, with which he was familiar, and reached a floating buoy opposite his own house, though four miles distant from the land. He thought of holding on to this but feared that the cold struck into him by the chill of the water would disable him and cause his death. Again he struck out for the land, but a new trial awaited him. A large gray gull made a dash at him, mistaking him for a floating corpse, and others of the foul birds came at the cry of the first. These enemies he frightened away by splashing the water with his hands and feet. He had now been nearly six hours in the water, and, as he neared the shore, he found his progress violent that he got through it was a hazardous undertaking—and, even if he should land, there were cliffs to climb and a long distance to walk, and he feared he might be benighted. He struck out, stood again and swam for a vessel which he knew lay at anchor in the Corton Roads, off Yarmouth. He hailed the vessel and was rescued. He had been one o'clock in the morning been over seven hours in the water. The distance he had traversed must have been fully fifteen miles. The effect upon him not only without the attendance and encouragement of friends in boats, insuring safety, but under the most awful circumstances, represents what the human frame can be imagined. He had no other support than the excitement of a struggle for life. This is, undoubtedly, the most powerful stimulant that can be felt. But often urges a man to fruitless and useless exertions, wasting his strength and hastening his death. For presence of mind, strength of nerve, and patience and perseverance in the face of fearful odds, to this Yarmouth boatman must be conceded the palm over all holiday competitors. And his chief merit lay in self-possession and endurance.

Cask Making by Machinery.

Messrs A. RAISOME & Co., of Stanley Works, King's Road, Chelsea, invited a party of gentlemen to inspect their now completed machinery for the manufacture of casks. The whole process was conducted within a single shed, where by successive machines, attended either by boys or by unskilled workmen, the staves were cut out, grooved and fitted; the hoops punched, planed and bent; the heads planed, ovalled and bevelled; and the several parts, fire-dried, put together by hand labor, compressed and united with the requisite degree of firmness. Every portion of each cask being fitted to the rest with mathematical accuracy, the completed work is far better, stronger and tighter than anything which can be turned out by the most skilled hand labor, and the saving in cost is even more remarkable than the improvement in quality. According to a computation supplied by the firm to their visitors, the present cost of making 600 hogsheads a week by hand labor would be £141 5s, or 4s 8½d each, while the cost of making them by machinery would be £55, or 1s and 10½ each. In this estimate no allowance is made for coals, oil, or wear and tear of plant, because the total amount of these expenses would be less than that of the truss hoops and other matters required for a hand cooperage of the size supposed. The machine plant for 600 hogsheads a week would cost £3,500, so that the total weekly savings of £85 5s in labor would afford a very large return upon the outlay, even without considering the superior quality of the casks and the reduction of the breakage and waste of wood which occur in hand manufacture. The workmen who were employed on Wednesday were none of them skilled coopers, and they had only had a week's practice with the machines; but the casks which they made were subjected to the severest tests by numerous visitors, and were found to be in every respect entirely satisfactory. It would seem as if the trade of journeymen coopers were in some danger of being altogether extinguished by such powerful rivalry.

Novel Treatment For Wounds.

Having noticed an account of the somewhat novel treatment, recently applied in the case of a wound, we addressed a note of inquiry to the gentleman named, Mr. A. K. SNOOT, a commission merchant of Baltimore, and received a reply, a portion of which, with permission, we copy. Mr. SNOOT says under date of September 22: "On the 7th of the present month I accidentally jumped from an elevation of three or four feet on a large nail or spike driving it about two and a half inches through my foot. This happened in the morning, and toward evening the foot commenced swelling and the pain increased, so much so that it was with difficulty my physician, Dr. [illegible], and myself could relieve me by the use of the strongest narcotics. I slept but little during the night. The next day the same treatment was continued, with the application of a hop poultice to the wound. On that day I received a card signed 'Sympathizer,' stating that the smoke from burning wool or woolen rags would immediately relieve the pain and stop the inflammation. The directions were to smoke the wound twenty minutes at a time, repeating the operation two or three times. According took a piece of woolen blanket, and after making a fire in an iron pot I smothered it with pieces of the cloth and held my foot in the smoke. This soon relieved the pain, the swelling went down, and up to the present time there has been scarcely any inflammation; a little bloody water has escaped from the wound, but all has disappearance and prolonged absence. Diligent inquiries are being prosecuted by his friends, and something more than only learned to throw a ray of light upon the matter.—*Johnstown Tribune.*

Stay Laws.

To the Editor of the Pittsburgh Commercial:

Stay laws, enacted to meet occasions of special monetary stringency, always have been, and, of necessity, always will be, mischievous to a people of diversified industries. They are clumsy expedients for relieving the pressure on certain classes by adding to the pressure on certain other classes.

Men engaged in commercial or manufacturing pursuits are under a necessity superior to any moral obligation to meet their pecuniary engagements. If they do not, discounts and other forms of credit are at once withheld from them and bankruptcy becomes inevitable. A special stay law is simply a continuance to enable the debtors of these classes to put them at defiance. The enactment of such a law is an outrage upon all correct principles of business. It is a sweeping violation of contract which the Legislature should be slow to exercise, even if its power over the whole subject be unquestionable, and it is not over contracts already existing. Nothing can be plainer than that such a stay law will precipitate many more bankruptcies than it will prevent.

Take each or class of cases. Many merchants, retired from business, on account of advanced years, and with only moderate fortunes, and many widows left with barely enough for comfortable support, have loaned the whole or a considerable portion of their means to younger and active people. All special stay laws yet enacted oppressively on this larger class of cases. A special stay law will at once plunge these creditors into a serious conflict for the obtainment of the means of subsistance.

If the Legislature shall see proper to pass a law to provide that after a day fixed no legal remedy shall be had in an action for debt, so be it. But meanwhile, do not let the Legislature be guilty of the folly and wickedness of saying that debtors need not meet their engagements, but by withholding payments, may crowd their creditors over the precipice. P.

SPRING, 1876.

BY MRS. LEVI WADE.

Mid-winter came with sunny smiles;
Coquetting with his arts and wiles.
And vainly tempting Mother Earth
To give the buds and flowers birth.
March came with bitter, icy blast,
A snowy robe around her cast,
And bade her keep her darlings safe,
Or death would blight each tender waif.
Locked kindly in her loving arms,
She safely held the beautious charms
Of fragrant bud and leaflet green,
To wait the mandate of her queen.
Soon Winter, with his snowy crest,
Obedient to fair Spring's behest,
Shall doff his cap, and northward turn
His footsteps to the Arctic zone.
Then genial Spring, with lavish hand,
Will scatter beauty o'er the land;
And Earth will lift her smiling face
To Him who giveth beauty, grace;
And all creation join to sing
A song of praise to God, our King.

STATE NEWS.

Judge Pearson, of Harrisburgh, is seriously ill.

Corn and hay are the best paying crops in Bucks county.

A fourteen year old girl in Sullivan weighs 185 pounds.

The Reading Rifles made $2,000 clear by their fair, last week.

An ox died of hydrophobia in Chester county a few days ago.

Mrs. Peden, of Johnstown, died last week, aged eighty-five years.

The Catholics in Doylstown are about erecting a school building.

The evangelists at work in Reading report 300 conversions last week.

Cases of infanticide are becoming alarmingly frequent in Lancaster county.

Rev. Henry Sutton of the M. E. Church, died in West Philadelphia on the 23d instant.

The new St. John's Reformed Church, at Schuylkill Haven, was dedicated on Sunday, 26th.

Mr. and Mrs. Wm. P. Sieg, of Harrisburg, celebrated their golden wedding on Friday evening.

At a public sale in Bedford county, last week, potatoes were sold at sixteen cents per bushel.

"Mother" Sheeman, of Johnstown, aged between 109 and 115, was supposed to be dying last week.

A writer in the Meadville *Republican* is of the opinion that it does not pay to make cheese on Sunday.

The missionary collections in the Central Pennsylvania M. E. Conference, last week, were $18,880.

A daily paper will be issued from the office of the Carbon *Democrat* during the coming murder trial.

A Blair county lady, Miss Mollie Bailey, has just finished a quilt containing 380 patches, or 15,380 pieces.

John J. Reimensnyder, sixty-four years of age, was recently admitted to practice law in Northumberland county.

A Berks county man trapped five ground hogs, one night last week, and the people there now look for settled weather.

James Adams, of Shippensburg, Cumberland county, has been a fireman and engineer on the railroad for thirty-seven years.

James Smith, a veteran of the war of 1812, died in Woodcock township, Crawford county, on the 8th instant, aged eighty-six years.

Leander Murphy, a twelve year old lad of Greensburg, has invented a railroad switch which has attracted the attention of railroad officials.

Justice Rich, of Buckingham, has been in office twenty one years, and has never yet sent a case to the courts. He believes in peace-making.

Miss Temperance Anderson, of Baden, who will visit the Centennial, has hair six feet eight inches long, probably the longest in the United States.

Scranton councils offer a reward of $5,000 for the arrest and conviction of the incendiaries who fired the opera house in that city on the 23d inst. Two unsuccessful attempts had previously been made to burn the building.

The Northumberland County Agricultural Society has elected the following officers for the present year: President, Jacob S. Bird; Vice President, John B. Leinbach; Treasurer, John McFarland; Secretary, G. W. Armstrong.

A huge policeman at Scranton appeared on the streets the other day between two little boys, of eleven years each, who were out for a lark. One of the youngsters, forestalling a stick or two of candy. Justice is blind in Scranton.

A short time ago, Jesse Roth, of Bethlehem, noticed a spot which appeared on one of his feet. He paid little attention to it at the time, but it kept getting larger, notwithstanding all he will probably lose his foot if not his life.

Thomas Francis Curley, under sentence of death in Norristown jail for the murder of Mary Ann Whitby, is denied communication with any one except his lawy